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# THE BOMBAY GAZETTE

BOMBAY:—MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1877.

## PUBLIC PROTEST AGAINST THE NEW COTTON FRAUDS BILL.

A PUBLIC meeting of Bombay Merchants was held on Friday afternoon. at the Chamber of Commerce, to protest against the new Cotton Frauds Prevention Bill which was recently passed through the Bombay Legislative Council being allowed to become law. The Honourable Donald Graham presided, and there was a large attendance, including Mr. Dickson (Messrs. Ed Bates and Co.), Mr. Brandenburg (Messrs. Bell, Brandenburg and Co.), Mr. T. Moore (Messrs Campbell, Mitchell, and Co.), Mr. Sigg (Messrs. H. Clason and Co.), Mr. Crofield (Messrs. Ewart, Latham, and Co.) Mr. Symonds (Messrs. Finlay, Muir, and Co.), Mr. W. Lang (Messrs. Finlay, Scott and Co.), Mr Forbes and Mr. Munro (Sir Charles Forbes and Co.), Mr. Sorabjee (Messrs Framjee Sands and Co.), Mr. Feidley and Mr. Bythell (Messrs Gaddum and Co), Mr. Cheetham (Messrs. Greaves, Cotton, and Co.), Mr. Sedgwick and Mr. Forrest (Messrs. Killick, Nixon and Co.), Mr. Bickerdike (Messrs. Knoop and Co.), Mr. Coomber (Messrs. Lyon and Co.), Mr. Owen (Messrs. Owen and Okell), Mr. C. Poole (Messrs. Peele, Cassels and Co.), Mr. Punnett (Messrs. Punnett and Co.), Mr. Mowat (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart and Co.), Mr. E. Sassoon (Messrs. Sassoon and Co.), Mr. Spinner (Messrs. Spinner and Co.), Mr. J. Y. Lang (Messrs. Stearns, Hobart and Co.), Mr. Meili (Messrs. Volkart Brothers), Mr. Bryce and Mr. Richardson (Messrs. Wallace and Co.), Mr. Blackhall (The Agra Bank, limited), Mr. Sharpe (The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China), Mr. Finlayson (The Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China), Mr. Noble (the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation), Mr. J. M. Maclean, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. R. Clarke, Mr. Macnaghten, Mr. Booth, Mr. Latham, Mr. Rich, Mr Martin Wood, Mr. Ummersey, Mr. Lukmishunker, Mr. H. Tapidass, Mr. Damodhim Thackersey, Mr. Vishbowandass, Mr. Nursey Kessowjee, Mr. Hurjeewan Bhowanidass, Mr. Ghalibhoy Puddumsey, Mr. Lillerday Shamjee, Mr. Goculdass Jugmohundass, Mr. Muncherjee N. Banajee, Mr. Sorabjee Doseabhoy, Mr. Cursetjee Dinshaw, &c. &c.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have called this meeting for the purpose of eliciting an opinion both with regard to the general question of legislation as to Cotton frauds and in particular regarding the new Bill which has lately passed through the Legislative Council, of Bombay. With this object, it was thought desirable to ask not only the members of the Chamber to attend but also the general public and all those who take any interest in this question; and the large attendance here shows that the Committee have not been wrong in their estimate of the interest taken in this question by the public. Of course, opinions have been expressed over and over again on this question, and very decided ones too, but they have been ignored by Government, and I must say I think the Bombay community have reason to feel aggrieved that their views on a question which interests them like this—in which they have some reason to think that, owing to their practical experience, their views are entitled to some weight,—should have been ignored. The resolutions which have been circulated will be duly proposed and seconded, and you will be asked to express your opinion about them. I will not detain you now with any remarks of my own, but will at once ask Mr. Bryce to move the first resolution.

Mr. Bryce moved:—"That this meeting protests against either the continuance of the Bombay Cotton Frauds Act, No. IX. of 1863, on the Statute-Book, or the new Bombay Cotton Frauds Bill, 1877, which passed the Legislative Council on the 3rd March 1877, becoming law, for the following reasons:—That the cotton trade of Western India considers that special legislation is useless and unnecessary, the general criminal law already providing sufficient remedies, and there is, therefore, an injustice in burdening the trade with any part of the cost of the establishment maintained for the purposes of the Act; that special legislation is indefensible as contrary to the principle that the State shall not interfere to protect exports; that the working of the existing law has been harsh and vexatious, and that the new Bill contains provisions which will be found equally inoperative, but capable of still greater oppression; and that if special legislation is persisted in on the ground that it is necessary for the protection of national interests, the expences of working it should be borne by the State." He (Mr. Bryce) said—I rise with the very greatest diffidence to introduce to the notice of this meeting the important resolution which has been committed to my charge, for I feel that I am in the unpleasant position of having to tell you an oft-told tale, and a tale, too, oft-told before by men much more able and experienced than myself. But it is an unfortunate necessity of countries administered by a beaurocracy ignorant of, or indifferent or perhaps hostile to many of the doctrines which long ago have received general acceptance amongst nations where public opinion is a ruling power,—a beaurocracy ready, I am afraid, to look at everything from the narrow platform of personal, official, professional and, often, still worse, family interests,—I say it is an unfortunate necessity of such countries that many points which in more favoured regions have long ago reached a general acceptance must in such countries be repeated over and over and over again with a wearisome iteration. Now, gentlemen, as I have to ask you to tread with me this already well-trodden ground, I shall endeavour to put the points which I have to bring before you as shortly and forcibly as possible; and I must ask the forgiveness of Mr. Graham and Mr. Bythell and the many other gentlemen who in times gone past have brought this subject before the Chamber of Commerce, and treated of it both here and in, what is supposed to be a more exalted place—I must, I say, ask the forgiveness of those gentlemen if what I have to say at times savours of plagiarism; and must further ask the forbearance of those who are present at this meeting if my remarks lack the charm of novelty. Now, as I have to propose to you a resolution, I think it will be as well for me on the whole to follow the order which the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce has thought best to adopt in the arrangement of the reasons which induced them to ask a public meeting to pronounce against this legislation. Now, the first in order of the reasons given in this resolution is that "special legislation is useless and unnecessary, the general criminal law already providing sufficient remedies, and there is, therefore, an injustice in burdening the trade with any part of the cost of the establishment maintained for the purposes of the Act." We say that special legislation is useless, because in districts where the Act is not in force good cotton is produced and that in districts where it is in force good cotton is not produced. I believe that evidence will be brought before you at this meeing to prove that the cotton grown in the Berars, of which great point has been made by the supporters of the Act, is not really subject to inspection at all, and that therefore what Mr. Ravenscroft has said upon that point is not worthy of any trust whatever. Secondly, I have to point out to you that in many of the districts where the act of 1863 is in force, very bad cotton indeed is constantly produced, especially in the Coomta districts. It is very well known that Coomta and Vingorla cotton is the most adulterated of all the cotton that is shipped from this port. And not only do we point to this remarkable fact that the districts in which the legislation is in force produce bad cotton, while the districts where it is not in force produce good cotton, but I have the further testimony to bring before your notice of many reports of the Cotton Department itself which show that under the Act of 1863 the officers of that department are entirely unable to do anything. There are many paragraphs to this effect in the different cotton reports, but I will only bring before your notice one of them, which will be quite sufficient to prove the point to you. In the Chamber's Report for 1870-1, it is stated, in a memorial from the Chamber to Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, that the Act has proved a failure in respect of the object it was intended to serve, and a Government resolution is quoted stating that "the officers of the Department are unanimous in condemning the utter inefficiency of the penal sections of the Act, and that for police purposes the Act may be said to be inoperative." Again, in 1871-2, we find it stated in the Cotton Commissioner's report that "the reports of the various inspectors show that fraud still exists with greater subtlety if not more openly carried on than before, the wording of the Act putting punishment out of the question." There is an admission by the officers of the department that legislation as it exists is entirely inoperative; and the new Bill is supposed to be a modification of the present Act, so if the latter is inoperative the other will be still more inoperative as far as attaining the objects this legislation is supposed to have in view. I must say I was a little surprised—though, perhaps, considering the whole tenour of Mr. Ravenscroft's defence of his legislation, I ought not to have been surprised—at his assurance in bringing before the Legislative Council the reports of the Cotton Department to show that this legislation had improved cotton, and also at his stating that cotton had improved in certain districts where the act was in force and not in other districts where the act was not in force. Really, though, I do not think that this statement of Mr. Ravenscroft's was at all weaker than most of the other statements contained in his various speeches during the progress of the Bill before the Legislative Council. At the first reading of the Bill he mentioned that a memorial had been put before the Legislative Council by the Bombay Association with regard to this Act, and he added that it was impossible to imagine anything more inefficient than the reasons urged in that memorial. I should have said it was impossible to imagine anything more inefficient, more weak, more fibreless, more nerveless than Mr. Ravenscroft's reasons for the maintenance of this legislation which he brought before the Legislative Council. There was not, I think, in the whole course of his speeches, one single argument not open to be demolished, and which was not demolished and torn to shreds by Mr. Graham and the other gentlemen who opposed the legislation. In especial that statement of Mr. Ravenscroft's that the Act had been in force for some time and that the improvement in cotton that had taken place was attributable to its working was a most flagrant instance of a palpable fallacy,—a fallacy of a nature with which we have all been familiar from the early days in which we studied logic, and which I need not allude to further than to point out that it does not necessarily follow because some piece of legislation has been in force for the furtherance of a certain object and that object has been secured,—it does not at all follow that it has not been secured by entirely other means than this legislation. This is what we say and what the Chamber of Commerce has said for a very long time,—that the improvement in cotton is owing to other causes entirely different from those to which Mr. Ravenscroft assigns the credit. I say it is owing to a number of causes—first of all to the reduction of profits consequent on a very keen competition during a continuance of years that necessarily leads the buyers of a commodity to exercise a very much more keen inspection of the articles submitted to them for purchase, and makes it necessary for them to be careful to purchase that, and that alone, on which they can make a profit, and that alone which is wanted for the purposes of the trade. In the second place, the improvement of cotton is due, to a very great extent, to the presence in the up-country districts where the cotton is produced of European agents who are skilled in the selection of the article, and therefore know exactly what is wanted. Thirdly, this improvement,—as Mr. Graham very well put it, and I think he was right in saying it, was owing to this chiefly—is due to the mutual allowance system which has arisen since the years of the American War, and by which, when better cotton was supplied, a better price was obtained from the buyer. It is on account of these reasons, and not on account of the inspectors poking their noses into every corner of one's compound, that an improvement has been effected in cotton. The supervision of the Collectors of districts—able men, anxious for the sake of their profession and for their own advancement to do what they can for the development of the various districts—has to a great extent also contributed towards this improvement, especially in the case of Mr. Ashburner, in Kandeish, and in a lesser degree of many other Collectors in different districts. I think that a sufficient answer has been given in these various reasons to what Mr Ravenscroft says of the necessity for special legislation to protect the Cotton trade. I will now proceed to the second part of this first paragraph of the resolution, viz:—that special legislation is unnecessary, the general criminal law already affording sufficient remedies for the purposes in view. I do not know, gentlemen, that in any other civilized county—any country in which public opinion and the true principles of political economy are thoroughly understood, it would be possible to justify a special legislation of this kind and the maintenance of a special department for purposes which are already sufficiently secured by the general criminal law. The Chamber of Commerce have pointed out this in numerous memorials both to the Bombay Government and the Government of India, and I do not think I need further enlarge on the point. I will only read the remark made by the Viceroy when he vetoed the Bill of 1869, which is quoted in the Chamber's Report for 1870-1. It is there stated that "His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General witheld his assent for various reasons, but especially in respect of the penal clauses, on the ground that the Penal Code had fixed the limits of the penal law, and he did not think those limits should be extended except for very grave reasons." It was attempted in the Legislative Council of Bombay to make a very great point about the adulteration laws in England, but those are laws of a very different kind; they are laws of a kind which the Chamber pointed out to be exempted from ordinary legislation and so justifying the special interference of the State with trade. In the memorial of the Chamber to the Bombay Government, with reference to Mr. Ashburner's Act for the protection of piece-goods manufactured in this Presidency and providing against adulteration, it was pointed out that the Government should do everything certainly in its power to foster and encourage the rising cotton manufacture, but the Chamber believed this could be best accomplished by leaving the Manufacturers to follow whatever course their experience showed to be the most profitable. That is really a point we have to look to. These adulteration laws in England have been passed entirely for the protection of the retail purchaser, and not in the least for the furtherance of the objects of trade. Mr. Ravenscroft, in the Legislative Council, alluded also to the law for the prevention of adulteration of flax in Ireland. That Bill—for it is not a law; it seems to have been "burked" last

Session, to have been one of the innocents slain at the end of the Session, for I cannot find it in the Statutes Book,—was addressed entirely to the protection of retail purchasers, and the only articles which were to be subjected to its influence were articles exposed for sale in a public market between 8 o'clock in the forenoon and 2 o'clock in the afternoon, it being, according to Section 14, the true intent and meaning that persons might manufacture and make up all kinds of flax and sell the same, unless the sale take place in open fair or market." It is clear that this act was of a similar nature to the acts for preventing the adulteration of tea and sugar, &c., and was entirely intended for the protection of retail buyers who have no means of finding out the real condition of articles sold to them, and who are not at all in the position of experts doing a trade in an article. It is quite apparent that this argument of Mr. Ravenscroft's with regard to legislation affecting the trade of Flax in Ireland falls to the ground. The next clause of this resolution maintains "that special legislation is indefensible as contrary to the principle that the State shall not interfere to prevent exports." I should really have thought that it would hardly be necessary to speak upon this point; but, as I have said, in this country where doctrines that find universal acceptance in more favoured countries do not meet with acceptance, it is necessary to insist upon some points which it otherwise would not have been. I therefore think it necessary to read to you one or two paragraphs of Mr. John Stuart Mill, to show that the principle of interfering for the protection of exports is a bad one. Having read a long extract on this subject, Mr. Bryce continued—That was pointed out with remarkable force by Mr. Graham, and I am sorry to say that Mr. Ravenscroft, in the same kind of manner that I should have expected from the rest of his performance, said he did not think it at all necessary for him to prove it. Again quoting from Mr. Mill regarding the regulations in force before the resolution, in France, Mr. Bryce said—Well, gentlemen, it is just such an interference that we find proposed and actually in operation in Bombay in 1877. Now, gentlemen, I have given you the opinion of a political economist. I could have added to this to any extent, but it is only necessary to quote a standard authority on the point; and you can easily refer to this, which is contained in the Chamber of Commerce report for 1874-75, where Mr. Ashburner's proposal to interfere with the manufacture of piece goods in Bombay is treated of. The Bengal and Madras Chambers applied to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce with regard to their opinion of the operation of this Act. The Chamber of Madras expressed a strong opinion against the Act and said it had recommended in respect of Tinnevelly cotton that there should be no interference with trade. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce wrote to a similar effect, and the result was that in Madras nothing was done. You will find that stated in the Chamber of Commerce Report, I think, for 1873-4. The Bengal Chamber also wrote, and we replied in a similar strain, and nothing was done there either. The Commission which sat some few years ago in Bombay, with Mr. Rogers as Chairman and Mr. Le Mesurier, Mr. Venayek Wassodew, Mr. Fogo, and Mr. Ravenscroft as members, also reported very strongly on the point of the indefensibility of this legislation in the present case; and no doubt the report of that Commission is thoroughly well known to you. Mr. Rogers, all through, although at first it appeared as though he were going to vote for the maintenance of this legislation, stated his opinions not only in the report of the Commission but in the Legislative Council, strongly in favour of doing away with the Act, and I think Mr. Ravenscroft, who referred to him at the first reading of the Bill as the most competent person to give an opinion on the cotton trade of India must have felt very much as Balaak did when Balaam turned round to curse him. The third point in this resolution is—"That the working of the existing law has been harsh and vexatious, and that the new Bill contains provisions, which will be found equally unoperative but capable of still greater oppression." It is almost sufficient, in order to justify this proposition, to point to the very large proportion of prosecutions to convictions under this Act. Any of the reports of the Cotton Commissioner will show this; and it is hardly necessary for me to refer to the matter in detail. In the Commissioner's report for 1871, which is contained in the Chamber's report for 1871-2, it is mentioned that the proportion of acquittals to convictions is 14 to 13. In that report of 1871-2, there is something further which I think I may as well mention. The Cotton Commissioner, in Section 10 of his report for 1871, says. "Struggling against the legislation * * * * the department may well be proud of its administration." In fact, he admits it is a very irritating kind of legislation, and he is only sorry it is not more irritating. In the report for 1872-3, the Cotton Commissioner is recorded to have said that he hoped to have a very large number of additional convictions from the fact that he had had offers of reward distributed broad cast over the land. We all know what that means, viz:—That wherever a man has an enemy that enemy will vamp up a case against him and make things disagreeable for him; and we all know the difficulty of meeting such cases in a Court of law, and that the department will do everything in its power to back up evidence in its favour. I will not go into cases of hardship to particular firms, because I expect that other gentlemen will speak to this point. My firm do not happen to be up-country buyers and I have no personal experience in that respect. I will only refer to the case of Messrs. Gaddum and Co, which called forth a good deal of correspondence at the time. There is no doubt that in that case a most iniquitous act was performed, but it only shows what, at the hands of officials, we have to expect. The Chamber of Commerce backed up Messrs. Gaddum and Company in their protest against the arbitrary proceedings of the Collectors, Messrs. Crawford and Borrofield, and further remarked on the extreme insolence of the latter in reference to what had happened. As long as such legislation continues, we may expect the repetition of similar instances. The present Bill is likely to be even more vexatious than the existing one; but as that is the subject which is taken up in a separate resolution, I need not allude to it further at present. The last clause of this first resolution says that "if special legislation is persisted in on the ground that it is necessary for the protection of national interests, the expenses of working it should be borne by the State." There is on this point, I am sorry to say, some little difficulty because we do not want to admit that any legislation is necessary at all, and therefore, it is only, as it were, in the direct extreme that, supposing legislation to be continued, it will be necessary to dispute upon whose shoulders it should fall. I say that if it is necessary to have special legislation of this kind, the cost of it ought to fall not on the Cotton trade, but on the State. In various reports of the Cotton Commisssioners, and in resolutions of the Government also, it is allowed that this legislation is maintained really, not for the benefits of the trade, but for what are called the national interests of the country. It is said it would be a national calamity if the cotton of Western India deteriorated. Now, what does that mean when you analyse it to its furthest point! Simply that if the Cotton of Western India went out of consumption, less money would go into the pockets of the ryots, and less in the long run into the coffers of the Government. The Government therefore is the party who should pay the expenses of such legislation. And not only is that true in theory but in practice the system would be found to work very much better if conducted at the cost of Government, because it would lead to a very much less vexatious manipulation of the details of the Act. I need not allude, I think, in detail to the evidence in support of this proposition, because it is to be found all over the Cotton Reports. I will only give you one instance. In the Chamber's report for 1871-2 page 220, there is this clause:—"In the report of the Commissioner for 1871 after a good deal of sentimental and sensational writing about rubbish, he says—"This the abolition of the Act would certainly save a merchant 3 or 4 annas per bale, but would lose to the Government the immense revenues derived from the cultivation of cotton, * * * * not to mention that the ryots would be driven to the verge of extremity." It is therefore the opinion of those who have had to deal with the working of the Cotton Frauds Act that if cotton became bad, those who would suffer would be, not the Cotton trade, but the ryots, and, in the long run, the Government. I have now gone over the different points of this resolution and have endeavoured to prove to you the necessity of your maintaining them with me. I have now to allude to some of the arguments used in the Legislative Council independent of these particular reasons for the purpose of trying to strengthen the case of the Bill. It has been said that the Liverpool and Manchester merchants are very eager to maintain this legislation; but I do not think that if you examine into what was really said by the Liverpool and Manchester Chamber of Commerce that position can be obtained for a single moment. The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce writes in the very shortest manner about it (see the Bombay Chamber's Report for 1873 4, page 413.) The Secretary writes to Mr. Ravenscroft:—"Sir, I am directed by the Council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to say, in reply to your letter, that while they are glad to find that measures continue to be employed for the prevention of frauds in Bombay cotton, they refrain from offering any opinion as to what steps should be taken with regard to a modification of the Act itself, as that is a matter belonging more especially to the local bodies to decide." Well, gentlemen, that does not appear to me to be a violent support of this legislation; on the contrary, it is a mere reference to the local bodies to decide the matter for themselves. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce writes:—"November 24th, 1873. From information received, the directors believe the condition of Indian cotton has greatly improved, but they also believe this may in some measure be attributed to the natural operations of trade * * * *. They are not prepared to recommend the repeal of the act of 1863, but prefer that the Bombay Government should recommend such modifications as they may consider necessary &c." Neither is that, I think, a very violent support of the principle of this legislation; and I am informed on the best authority that the only reason why the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester did not write strongly condemning the principle of the Act, as many of the members wished to do, was that they were not thoroughly well informed as to the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce in Bombay on the question. I think I have now dealt as shortly as I could with the various points raised or necessary to be raised in the discussion of this question, and considering the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce and the merchants of Bombay,—the parties most likely to know, and of the Commission of independent gentlemen appointed to consider the question, who recommended that the Act should be put in abeyance and only, if necessary in exceptional circumstances, again brought into play,—having, as I said, brought before you these points, it only remains for me to ask you what is the reason why these Acts are now supported; and, gentlemen, I have no hesitation at all in saying that the only reason for the maintenance of this legislation is that the Cotton Department, with its various grades and different emoluments, should be preserved for those at present holding them and likely to be appointed to them in the future, Mr. Ravenscroft said, with regard to Mr. Bythell, and in reference to the case of Messrs Gaddum and Co's. I have referred to, that he thought, it was really very little necessary to consider what Mr. Bythell's opinion was for he was an interested person, being interested in that case. Now, I think, Mr. Ravenscroft should have been the last person to have said that. Has he not got an interest in this legislation himself? He is the parent of this legislation, if I may say so; he has been connected with it from the very beginning. If you go back to 1863-4 and other antedeluvian periods, you will find him figuring as the backbone of this legislation, and he feels, therefore, in it the interest a parent feels in his child, and which a poet is supposed to feel in his works; and it was natural for him to dissent from the opinion of the otherwise unanimous Commission as to the necessity for maintaining these Acts. It was unwise, too, on other grounds for him to say anything about disinterest in this matter, because I am credibly informed that a variety of other gentlemen, some of them members of the Legislative Council, have an interest in the maintenance of this department. Really the main cause of the re-enactment of this Act of 1863 in its present modified form is the anxiety of Sir Bartle Frere to maintain not only his own legislation, but also certain other interests which, I daresay, at the time when the legislation was first begun he had in view, and which he still has in view. I have it on the best authority that it was Sir Bartle Frere who stirred up Lord Salisbury to send out this missive to the Government of Bombay requiring the continuance of the Cotton Frauds Acts; and we all know he has relations in the department. It is unnecessary for me to speak to you further about the wire-pulling and backstairs influence in these matters; but I maintain that is the only ground for the maintenance of this legislation. As I said before, the speeches of Mr. Ravenscroft before the Bombay Legislative Council were weak in the extreme; and he was very weakly supported on principle. Only Col. Anderson attempted to support him, and that only on the general principle of the Act; and the other members consented to act as what the Romans called Foot senators merely voting and not speaking. It was perfectly evident that if they had consulted their own opinion merely, and had no other interests at stake they would have pronounced against this legislation. We are here, gentlemen, to decide on a public question and to maintain and develop the public spirit and public opinion necessary for keeping within proper limits the administration of this country. In India generally the opinion of Bombay is looked up to and respected, this being almost the only place in India where a really fair, and honest, and just public opinion with regard to the matters of the day can be obtained. In too many of the other towns official interest of various kinds prevail, but everybody knows that Bombay is too far off from the seat of Government to be influenced in that way, and the members of the Bombay community, and especially the members of the Bombay press, are above such treaties of dishonour. I think, gentlemen, that probably the influence of Bombay on the rest of India is owing in a great measure to its press, because that press is managed with an ability, an honesty, and an independence which would secure it consideration in any city of England, not excepting the capital itself. But without the public-spirited bodies of Bombay to back up the press, the opinion of the press would be of little use, for, in fact, in the long run, the press always depends upon the public which reads it. We have lately had an instance, gentlemen, of the great effect which public opinion in Bombay, represented by the press, had in regard to the Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Bill—a nefarious attempt to deprive the unfortunate ryots of this country, already sufficiently ground down, of the protection of the law. I maintain that just as Bombay on that occasion did its duty, not only towards the particular interests engaged but towards the development and maintenance of public spirit, so rare in this country, so now it is our duty to protest against this one-sided and interested legislation, for the benefit, not only of ourselves, but of the country at large. (Cheers).

Mr. W. Lang—I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution, and I must say I feel much diffidence in doing so, after listening to the eloquence with which Mr. Bryce has favoured us. I thinkit is unnecessary for me to recapitulate all the arguments against cotton legislation; they are familiar to you all, and I think the time I feel justified in allowing myself may be best employed by briefly reviewing some of the latest arguments in favour of this legislation which are before us. As stated by Mr. Ravenscroft, in moving the first reading of the new Bill of 1877 the other day, a body of Bombay merchants waited on Sir Bartle Frere in 1863 and asked him to legislate for the preservation of the purity of Indian cotton. As was stated also by the honourable gentleman, the American War was then in full operation, and the price of cotton had risen from 4d. and 5d. to 15d. and 20d. a pound. We are also told that every one was desirous of making as much money as possible. Such being the state of affairs, we are told it is the opinion of the honourable gentleman that merchants of that time were able to take a much more liberal and enlightened view of the question than we are possibly able to do at the present time. Now, it is my opinion that the views of any body of men are more likely to be liberal and enlightened when they are free from any particularly exciting causes such as a sudden advance in prices and a desire to accumulate wealth in a short space of time. But, I am far from admitting that there was unanimity even in those exciting times as to the necessity for legislation to prevent frauds in cotton. Many of the arguments that have been urged in recent years against this legislation were then urged by some of the ablest members of the Chamber; and I think the position of the question in 1863 would be more correctly described if it were said that the majority of the merchants, being actuated by a fear of the reduction of their profits by the adulteration of cotton which was prevalent, were induced to wait on Government and to ask them to interfere for the protection of trade, whilst a minority were always opposed to any legislation. And I do not think there was any section of the community, from His Excellency the Governor and the members of Council down to the merchants themselves, who, after those exciting times were passed, had not reason to regret that in many of their acts they had not been guided by more sober judgment. I think, therefore, that far from the mercantile community of 1863 being able to take a more enlightened view of the case than the merchants of the present day are, the reverse is the case. A very strong point has been made against us by the Honourable Mover of the Bill, because when the Commission was sitting in 1873 we did not come forward in a body to give evidence before that Commission. I can say for myself that I was asked by a member of the Commission whether I would give evidence, and I stated that I was perfectly prepared to do so. I naturally expected to receive a letter from the Secretary to, or from some one connected with the Commission, intimating on what day my attendance would be expected, but I never received any such letter and I did not think it was necessary for me to attend the sitting of the Commission every day to find out on what day my evidence would be taken. I think when a Commission is sitting at home the usual course is to request the Secretary to write to any gentleman whose evidence it may be considered desirable or necessary to take before the Commission, asking him the nature of the evidence he would be able to give and on what day it would be convenient for him to attend, instead of merely advertising in the newspapers. I think if that rule had been followed with regard to this Commission in Bombay many gentlemen would have come forward and have given evidence before the Commission. We can only suppose this was not done because the members of the Commission considered that they had sufficient evidence before them of the inutility of the Act from the statements of the officers of the Cotton Department, who had already been examined

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Mr. Ravenscroft has also stated his opinion that even now the majority of the mercantile community of Bombay are not opposed to this legislation. I can only say Mr. Ravenscroft must have a very mean opinion of the intelligence and independence of the mercantile community of Bombay when he can suppose that for years the merchants of Bombay would allow memorials to be showered on the Government and the Secretary of State, urging the repeal of this legislation, if they were not sure the statements contained in these memorials represented the opinion of the majority of the mercantile community. I think from what was stated by another honourable member during the progress of the discussions on the Bill, that if some of the members of the Legislative Council were free to vote according to the views which they appear to hold, we should not only have a majority of the mercantile community against this legislation and in favour of its repeal, but we should also have a majority in the Legislative Council [illegible]. I cannot speak myself of the working of this Act except in the Presidency towns; but I may mention that in Kurrachee I had some experience of its working, and we were frequently very much annoyed by the interference of the over-zealous Chief Cotton Inspector of that place. There was really no adulteration on which he could expend his zeal, and he used to constitute himself a sort of examiner of our cotton. We used to receive frequent notices that our cotton was considered to be mixed or adulterated or of inferior quality; but we thought we knew our own business, and we did not pay much attention to the gentleman. I would mention one case in Bombay to show that these interferences with trade are objectionable, viz :—with regard to the shipping of cotton for the China market. It is necessary that the tare of the bales shipped to China should amount to 22 lbs., and the "Heathen Chinee" having a habit of deduc ing this from the gross weight of the bale whether the actual tare was 16 lbs. or 19 lbs., and as iron hoops are not suitable for the China market, and we cannot get bales up to that weight by binding with ropes, the China merchants decided to add old gunny bags to the bales next to the wrapper to make up the tare to the desired weight of 22 lbs. One would have thought that could not be considered adulteration, and that it was not likely to damage the cotton in any way; but I myself was stopped whilst engaged in this innocent proceeding by the Cotton Frauds Inspectors and received notice that I was adulterating the cotton. It is only fair to say we were not prosecuted, but I think that such interference should be possible is most objectionable. I would also say a few words as to the frauds in the linseed trade, which Mr. Graham referred to in the Legislative Council, and which I think is a very apt illustration of merchants being able to take care of their own interests. We all know that recently these frauds were very prevalent in Bombay. The price of linseed had advanced considerably and dealers who had advanced contracts at a low rate were subjected to very great losses, hoping to lessen which they deliberately mixed large quantities of sand with the seeds and tendered the adulterated article to the merchants. We might then have gone to Government and have asked for an Act to prevent frauds in the linseed trade, but we thought we could protect ourselves, and by combining we very soon showed the dealers they could not succeed in their frauds. So evident indeed was this that in a very few weeks the seed which they had adulterated had to be recleaned by them and tendered to us in a proper state. I have had similar experience in the wheat and seed trades in Kurrachee. There is no place in which there has been more adulteration than in Sind, and very great losses have been sustained by the merchants in consequence for years. It was their own fault; they were not particular enough in their contracts, and the dealers got them into their hands and took advantage of them. On one occasion, I am sorry to say, the merchants requested the Commissioner of Sind to institute legislation to prevent these frauds, but fortunately, I think, no attention was paid to the request of the Chamber of Commerce at Kurrachee and there is no further talk of legislation in the matter. The merchants having become more careful in their contracts, have secured themselves against those frauds and the trade is now on a sound basis. At the second reading of this Bill before the Bombay Legislative Council, it was stated that Liverpool and Manchester gentlemen were in favour of the continuance of this legislation. I cannot believe that this was the case, for I think the intelligence of the Liverpool and Manchester merchants is too great for that. I think that any man in Liverpool with any experience of the Cotton Trade as carried on at present would say—"It does not matter to me what laws they have in force in Bombay; the merchants must give me the cotton I want, or they will have the differrence, and run the chance of having it own back on their hands." Therefore it is a matter of perfect indifference to him. But even if the [illegible] was correct, I fail to see why the trade of Bombay merchants should be legislated for [illegible] ance of Liverpool and Manchester merchant[illegible].)

Mr. J. Y. Lang—I shall with my [illegible] support the resolutions laid before this mee[illegible]med to me that in the third paragraph of [illegible]here it is stated that the working of th[illegible]s been harsh and vexatious, we are a l[illegible]Cotton Frauds Department. To my mi[illegible]o the minds of many other gentlemen h[illegible]laint is that it has not been so much [illegible]us as useless and inefficient. During t[illegible]the Act has been in force, about 15[illegible]eve, have been paid by the merchant[illegible]ave we received in return for that [illegible]tle-men, that that third paragraph[illegible]age be a little softened down. Our [illegible]are —first, against the principle alto[illegible]at it has proved, and will prove a[illegible]e. During the eleven years it ha[illegible]I think, the third time it has be[illegible]y argument the Government can b[illegible]r is that if they allow inferior or [illegible] sent forward from Bombay Indian[illegible] favour in Liverpool and in the o[illegible] consequently the Government will [illegible] revenue. But I maintain that in th[illegible] and rapid communication such a contingency is impossible. Have we not had in Bombay, within the last five or six years, many instances of how the trade has righted itself? Did not the cotton come down to Bombay a few years ago packed in the order of four good *dokras* and an inferior one in the middle? Were not most of us merchants taken in at first, and did we not soon find the fraud out and make it so expensive for those people who perpetrated them that they are not likely to try it on again? Then, in later years, great lumps of dates came down in the Dhollera cotton, which the coolies used to pocket, instead of placing with the tare, as they would have done in the case of stones, and we again suffered from loss of weight. But we soon discovered that practice also, and that, with the other, has passed away. Thus, gentlemen, I think we are quite able to protect ourselves, and that it is idle to think Indian cotton will ever, for fear of adult ration, pass out of favour. The native traders of India are daily becoming more and more enlightened, and see the advantage of trading in the pure article. To the present Bill, gentlemen, there are several objections. In the first place, I would point out that in clause no 14 there is no definition of what fraudulent adulteration really is. Is it to be left to the Inspector to say what fraudulent adulteration is? Is he to say "You are not to do that, or this," and are we to go to the Magistrate, and after three or four days delay, to find out if this Inspector is right or wrong? No, Sir, such a thing cannot be allowed, and I think that in the preamble of the Bill, if it is to stand at all, we should endeavour to get inserted a definition of the term "adulteration." From a conversation I have had with a member of the present Cotton Frauds Department, I know that what they are anxious to maintain is that when a man mixes a good *dokra* of cotton with an inferior one that is to constitute adulteration. They might just as well say that now American cotton is so plentiful in Liverpool, and our high standards of cotton there are not so much required, we must only ship the lower qualities. Another thing I object to in this Bill is that there is no clause at all providing that the inspectors should have any special qualifications for their work. We know what the inspectors have been in the past; we know, in fact, that the Cotton Frauds Department has been a kind of refuge for the destitute. On one occasion, some years ago, I remember seeing at the Cotton press a Serjeant in the army. True, he had the V. C. cross on his breast, but unfortunately he was a little addicted to the bottle, and he very soon passed away. The V. C. cross is undoubtedly a great honor, but does it, I ask, entitle a man to stand over us merchants and say "you shall do this," and "you shall do that" in matters concerning our trade. Again some few years ago I remember an European came to my office and asked me to give him a contract for washing the dirty linen from one of our steamers. I could not, unfortunately, comply with his request. Whether from grief at the loss of this contract, I do not know, but in a few days I met the same man down at the Cotton presses and when I asked him what he was doing there—"Oh!" he said "I am in the Cotton Frauds Department." (laughter) Now, being a connoiseur of dirty linen does not, I think, lead up to being a good cotton Inspector. And if such things have existed in the past, what guarantee have we that they may not continue in the future? I think therefore there should be a clause inserted providing that the inspectors should be duly qualified men (hear, hear.) Some of you may say that consideration is of no moment because we are determined to get this Act abolished; but I think we may protest till we are black in the face and Lord Salisbury will still inflict upon us the Act; so I think we should, in any representations we may make, offer such suggestions as will render the act, if it is to come into force, at least operative. At present, according to its supporters' own showing, it will be inoperative; and I know for a fact that the gentlemen of the Cotton Frauds Department dread this new Bill more than the old Act because they know it is unworkable. I think this Bill is certain to come into force, but for myself I feel sure that when an attempt is made to work it, the Department will get into such a mess that the act will soon kill itself. Lastly, gentlemen, whilst in the heat of this discussion, I do not think we should forget to express our thanks to the present Governor of Bombay, and also to the Hon'ble Mr. Rogers, for the kindly part they have taken in our interest. One of the first acts Sir Philip Wodehouse performed after his arrival in Bombay was to reduce to one half the fee we were paying on cotton, and by many acts since he has shown a kindly feeling towards us merchants, not only in regard to this Bill but in many other instances. I know that, with regard to this Bill in particular, if left in his hands, it would soon be a thing of the past. But unfortunately it is not in his hands. The Hon'ble Mr. Rogers, in the Legislative Council, voted against his superiors and remained true to his convictions. Before sitting down, I must say I do regret the remarks that Mr. Bryce made, at the conclusion of his very able speech. The Hon'ble Mr. Ravenscroft, I am sure, thoroughly believes in what he advocated, and I do not believe that family interest of any kind could make him swerve from his conviction. (Applause).

Mr. Bryce—I did not say that.

Mr. Mowat :—After all that has been said and written on this very important subject, I feel that the little I have to say will yet to some extent interest you. The greater part of the gentlemen present are aware that I am in favour of legislation for the prevention of adulteration of cotton. At a meeting held in this room some 18 months ago, I was the only one who voted on that side, and lately, in the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have been the only one in favour of legislation; but while watching with interest all that has been lately said and done, I must say that my opinions have recently become subjected to very great modification indeeed. (Hear, hear.) I will tell you how. It is simply on account of this new Bill as passed at the third reading, which I believe to be rather harsh, while I am of opinion at the same time that several of the clauses will not only prove to be unworkable, but they put far too much power into the hands of the cotton Inspectors, who may, as has been pointed out by several gentlemen present, be quite ignorant of the value of the staple and thereby cause a great amount of property to be sacrificed, and the mercantile community would be subjected to annoyance and fearful losses. In speaking of legislation on this subject, we can only draw the reasons to guide us in the future from our knowledge of the past. It therefore becomes necessary to review to some extent the history of the Cotton Trade. I shall try to be very brief. Legislation on the subject is very old. I believe it dates from 1829. The cotton trade of this port was then a very unimportant one; in fact until about 1851 the greatest part of our exports went to China. About 1851 adulteration of cotton became very rampant. The cotton trade of Western India was then attracting attention in Liverpool, and it became necessary to have some legislation on the subject. The act 1851 was passed and I think that in the opinion of several gentlemen who have great knowledge of the Bombay cotton trade, and who have still capital invested in it, that measure proved for the benefit of the country. If many of those who are now against legislation had belonged to those days they would have become partizans of the opposite side. This state of things went on for a time until the Act of 1851 was found to be very inoperative indeed. Adulteration became once more rampant; stones and other materials were put into the bales, and every device was adopted to add to the weight, simply in order to increase the value and thereby secure much larger profits. It was under these circumstances that several gentlemen went to Sir Bartle Frere in 1863. I think if you will review the records of the Chamber about that period, you will find that only two firms dissented on that occasion, viz :—Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell and Company and Messrs. Edward Bates and Company. The Act passed in 1863 worked very well for some time and the qualify of the cotton improved rapidly. I think that to this Act, along with the system of mutual allowances which sprung up I think in 1867, the opening of European agencies in the districts, and so on, the great improvement in the quality of the Indian staple is due. A great deal has been said about convictions in certain districts and about bad qualities of cotton coming from certain quarters, the Southern Mahratta country being held out as the most noticeable example. I do not think the working of the Act has much to do with that. If we want to remedy the condition of the cotton there, we must adopt other means. So long as we find the indigenous and exotic cotton growing in the fields together, what can we expect? With reference to Bhownuggur and other places, I think it was well shown at the Legislative Council meetings that although there may not be any act or Cotton Department in operation there, yet measures are adopted to prevent adulteration which are quite as stringent as those taken under the Bombay Cotton Frauds Act. Wherever the *laissez faire* system can be adopted, I think it should be, but if adopted in the case of cotton in India, it would be a very great mistake. Mr. Lang has referred to the linseed trade, but the example he has given I think rather points the other way. Three or four months ago, adulteration was so general in that trade that the sweepings of linseed godowns were bought, and instead of 2 per cent. of adulteration, which people look upon as allowable, I believe it exceeded 20 per cent. in many cases which shows we might be all the better for legislation. One engaged in the trade told me that in some linseed he handled the other day the adulteration amounted to 5½ per cent, instead of 2 per cent. That extra 3½ per cent. makes a profit, gentlemen of itself; I am sure every one in this room would be glad if he could get 3½ per cent. on every transaction. (Laughter). We will come now to the new Bill. While I have stated my preference for legislation on this subject, I beg to say I would a thousand times rather have the Act of 1863 than the new Bill; the old act with all its faults is better than the new one. I would rather have no legislation at all than the new Bill as it now stands (hear, hear) I need not go over the ground Mr. Lang has already so ably covered. There was one thing I could not help admiring in the course of the Legislative Council discussions and that was the assistance H. E. the Governor gave in acceding to the expressed wish of the mercantile community that the expenses of working the Act should be made as low as possible. While approving of this, however, we must not forget that it would be a very great mistake to exercise economy at the expense of efficiency. Under this new Bill, great powers will be put in the hands of the Inspectors, and we cannot have too efficient men to fill the positions. At a time when things are far from encouraging in India, and when we ought to attract the very best men to the country, economy should not be exercised to a rigid extent; rather go in, as Mr. Lang says, for having a number of duly certified Inspectors who will know their work thoroughly, pay them well and trust in their honesty, and then you will get the Bill worked so that it may be not only a benefit to the merchants but to the community generally. I quite agree with what Mr. Lang said about the concluding remarks of Mr. Bryce. I am sorry indeed that any one should have thought our legislators were induced by any petty personal interests of their own to support a great measure with which the State has to do. I believe our legislators are a class of men—every one of them—above that kind of thing.

Mr Bryce—I did not say Mr. Ravenscroft had any family interest whatever in the passing of the Bill.

The Chairman—I did not understand you to say so. As far as I heard what was said, I think Mr. Mowat and Mr. Lang must have misunderstood you.

Mr. Mowat—Then with regard to what Mr. Bryce has said, I am very glad to receive his explanation. That was the impression I had formed.

Mr. Bryce—It is not an explanation; it is a contradiction.

Mr. Mowat—That was the inference I drew from what you said.

Mr. Bryce—Then that is your explanation.

Mr. Mowat—I am only glad to think that I should be wrong. With reference to the Act, I would say, further, ask the up country agents, who have a great knowledge of the working of it, what is their opinion, and they will tell you they prefer legislation on this particular point. We ought to respect their opinion because they have a great knowledge of the districts and they know what the Act has done for them and how it has assisted the country. Now I have offered you my views on the subject and I will not detain you longer. With reference to the first resolution, I shall not vote at all as I am in favour of legislation but

opposed to this particular Bill. The second resolution I shall support with all my heart, because the clauses of the new Bill therein referred to can only be worked to the serious injury of the mercantile community, and, I will add, the country. With reference to the application of funds derived from the fees to other than the immediate purpose of seeing whether cotton is adulterated, or unadulterated I think it is unfair to those who have to pay the tax; and with regard to the last resolution, I heartily agree to it because, if we can trust to justice and receiving it at the hands of any party we can safely appeal to the most enlightened assembly in the world, the British House of Commons. (Applause.)

Mr. J. M. Maclean, whose rising was greeted with cheers, said:—I have been asked to take part in the proceedings of this meeting, and I hope you will allow me to say that I do so as one of the general community for whose benefit I find both the officials and the mercantile men who have ever approved of this Bill say it is specially designed. The gentleman who has just sat down has, what I may be allowed to call an hereditary fondness for this kind of legislation. The house he represents has perhaps had more to do with the promotion of enactments for purifying the cotton trade than any other house in Bombay. I believe it was Mr. Campbell who first proposed to the Government, about 1851, the advantage of using the Collectors' power for the purpose of enabling European merchants to get better cotton from up country. Possibly there may have been some necessity for legislation of the kind at that time. In those days, the Collector was king in his own district; a European trader hardly ever came there; and when he did come he was utterly powerless without the help of Government officers. It may thus have been necessary for the pioneers of the trade at its commencement, to get the aid of those all powerful Government officials to persuade the natives of the advantages of this new commerce. But times have changed very much since then. They had changed even in 1863, when a new Bill for the protection of the cotton trade was brought forward. Now, the gentleman who was chiefly responsible for that Bill was Mr. Michael Scott, a very able, energetic, and enterprising man, and a man at that time generally recognised as the leader of the mercantile community of Bombay. I have been reading within the last few days the proceedings of the Legislative Council while that Bill was under discussion, in order to help my memory, though I was in Bombay at the time, and protested against the principle of the Bill when both Government and the majority of the merchants were favourable to it (hear, hear.) The great reason Mr, Scott gave for the legislation was that without it it was impossible for the European merchant to establish direct business relations in the interior of the country with the native grower, and he brought forward a good deal of evidence in support of that view. Well, do we not all know now that circumstances have very much changed from the circumstances of those days? Do not the very merchants who have the principal relations with the growers of cotton up country say now that they are perfectly well able to protect their own interests and want no special legislation to help them? This change has arisen from many causes, —from the greater facilities of communication enjoyed, and from the greater skill and knowledge of business shown by the European merchants in conducting transactions with the natives, and also in a very great measure, I think, from an improvement in the character of the natives themselves, who have come to know, by means of the greater acquaintance they have with the trade of foreign countries, that it is not to their interest to continue the old foolish tricks of adulteration by which they thought they made money, and to see that it is best for themselves in the long run to do what they can to sell to the European merchants a good article. For these various reasons I think that the special justification which Mr. Michael Scott urged in 1863 for passing a bill for the protection of the cotton trade has passed away. Now, can it be said that there is any other reason for prolonging this legislation? Can it be said that the Act itself has done very much good—that, as I have often heard it urged, if it were done away with the national interests of India would suffer by the possible loss of one of her most important branches of trade? Again, I would ask you to turn to the proceedings of the Legislative Council of Bombay when the Bill for the amendment of the Act of 1863 was brought forward by Sir Seymour Fitzgerald's Government in 1869. Those proceedings I read over before I came to this meeting, and I made one or two extracts from what was said there which show, I think, how right Mr. Bryce was in saying that this Act has been quite inoperative. The object of introducing the Bill of 1869 was to make the Cotton Frauds Act of 1863 much more stringent. In the Statement of objects and reasons, it was said—"It has been found that the present law does not sufficiently provide for the suppression of frauds in respect to cotton, and that the admixture of different descriptions is practised to such an extent as to act injuriously on the trade." That was in 1869. Now, the principal defect alleged in the Cotton Frauds Act of 1863 was this, that in the wording of the punitive clauses the qualification that cotton must be proved to be mixed with fraudulent intent prevented the inspectors from getting convictions; and Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, a clear-sighted man who always went straight at his object, calmly proposed that the words "with fraudulent intent" should be removed altogether, so that the mixing of cotton of any kinds whatever would be rendered a penal offence. Sir Seymour said himself, when recommending this change to the Legislative Council, that the Cotton Frauds Act had done no good at all, the exertions of the inspectors being paralysed by the wording of the Act, which made it impossible to secure convictions. Mr. Campbell was a member of the Council, and he made a very curious speech, which is worth reading by any one who has time for that sort of thing. He contradicted the views of Mr. Michael Scott, and supported the views of Mr. Grant and others, and said the adulteration of Indian cotton had been very much exaggerated, and that it was only at the first outbreak of the American War, when people eagerly bought up everything sent forward from Bombay, that there was a little mixture of sand, stones, and other rubbish. He attributed the absence of adulteration which he alleged characterised the trade at that time (in 1869) to the salutary terror inspired by the regulations of 1851 and this 1863 Act, which nevertheless it seems could not be worked. Well, Mr. Campbell at first objected to the introduction of this Bill of 1869 because he did not think it necessary, the cotton being in a very fair state that was exported from Bombay; but a Select Committee was appointed, and he signed the report, and in that report the Select Committee say that "the officers who have worked the Act declare the existing system to be practically useless." And the Government, in their resolution on Dr. Forbes's Report of May 31st 1869, say:—"The officers of the department are unanimous in condemning the utter inefficiency of the penal provisions of the Act. Only eight convictions were obtained during the year. For police purposes the Act may be said to be inoperative, and now that its imperfections have become widely known, the terror once inspired by it in the mind of the ignorant but dishonest trader is rapidly disappearing. Adulteration and fraud seem to be on the increase, and notably so at Broach." This was in the year 1869, when it was the object of the officers of the Cotton Frauds Department to prove that their hands must be strengthened, and when they thought they had a very fair chance of having more extensive powers given them by Sir Seymour Fitzgerald's Government. We have it here stated that the Act had been in operation for some years and had done no particular good to the cotton trade of Bombay. Has any particular change taken place since that time? Has not the ignorant but dishonest trader, as he was called up-country, known that the Bill to make the law more stringent was vetoed by the Duke of Argyll? Would not that make him despise the officers who admitted that they could not work the Act against him? And would not the cotton trade of Western India, if there was any truth in the idea of its being dependent on the working of this Act, have declined and almost perished by this time under a law which cannot be worked? Not withstanding all this, the other day when another Bill was brought forward, we were told that the operations of the Department have been most effectual, and that to it alone are due the improvements which have taken place in the Cotton Trade. How is it possible to reconcile this conflicting evidence? The only way to do so is to admit what is perfectly plain, that it is to the interest of the Cotton Frauds Department to have the legislation continued. When they thought they could get their hands strengthened and a fresh law passed giving them greater powers, they said the Act as it stood could not be worked, and when they find it could only be maintained if made a little less stringent, then they come forward and say it has worked admirably. (Hear, hear.) I should like to say a few words on the way in which this new Bill has been brought forward. Sir Philip Wodehouse's Government saw that the Act was doing very little good at all, and they knew the strong objections entertained to it by the mercantile community. They first of all took the step of asking the opinion of the different Chambers of Commerce at home upon the effect of the Act. Those Chambers replied, and I think the tenor of their reply is fair enough, that it was not for them to say what laws were necessary for the improvement of the Cotton Trade of Bombay, but that that was surely a matter for the Bombay Government and the mercantile community of this place to discuss for themselves. I think that is a fair interpretation of what was meant by both Manchester and Liverpool Chambers in the guarded letters that they wrote. That being so, the Government of Bombay determined to find out what was the exact opinion of the mercantile community of Bombay, and they appointed a Commission to inquire into the working of the Act. I think they made a very serious mistake in appointing as a member of that Commission Mr. Ravenscroft, a gentleman who was the first administrative officer under the Act, and who had, as he admits in his minute, a strong bias in favour of the law. He might have been very well called as a witness, and would have given very valuable evidence, but I think he ought not to have been appointed a member of the Commission. Well, the Commission sat and had a number of witnesses before them, and I think it pretty generally known about the autumn of 1874 that the tenour of the evidence was against the continuance of the Act, and that the majority of the members had by that time pretty well made up their minds as to the report they would send in. In October 1874, Mr. Ravenscroft took leave to England, and while he was at home he was at some trouble to ascertain the opinion of mercantile men in different parts of England about the working of this Act. He says;—"When I was at home in 1874, I pointed out to numerous merchants in Manchester and Liverpool that, though the local merchants had protested in strong terms against the Act, they either could not, or did not choose to come forward and give evidence against it, and I was then assured by men of the highest rank in the Cotton Trade at Liverpool and Manchester that the Act, as it then stood, or with their modifications on the same principle, was, in accordance with their views and the views of the majority of the leading mercantile men in England." You will observe that Mr. Ravenscroft does not favour us with the names of the gentlemen who gave him this opinion, and when in his speech he finds such great fault with the Merchants of Bombay for not coming forward and giving evidence where he says they could be cross-examined, I would ask if it is a fair thing for him to adduce in this way the evidence of unknown men which we cannot test, whereas if we knew their names and could cross-examine them, we should perhaps find they are not such great authorities about the cotton trade of Western India as he apparently supposes them to be. I do not think, either, that it was fair play on his part either to the Government he served or the Commission of which he was member, that he should go to England and rake up apparently opinions in support of the continuance of this law, at the time when the question of the expediency of continuing it had been referred to a Commission which was to found its opinion on the evidence collected in Bombay itself. Mr. Ravenscroft came back to Bombay and wrote a minute dissenting from the report of the other members of the Commission; and if you look through that minute, you will find he does not analyse in any way the evidence given before the Commission itself, but he founds his opinion on a very false analogy of the working of adulternation Acts of home. In fact, his eye was turned to home, and to the opinions he had formed there, and not at all, as far as I can see, to the evidence before the Commission. Well, upon this, minute Lord Salisbury founds his interference and very briefly says he agrees with Mr. Ravenscroft, and that the Bombay Government must thrust this Act once more on a community which had expressed its distaste for it. Well, gentlemen, we have now to consider what we can possibly gain by protesting against the continuance of this law. Can we influence Lord Salisbury himself? I do not think that is a thing to be despaired of. Lord Salisbury has recently shown at Constantinople that he is a man peculiarly open to all kinds of influences (hear, hear, and laughter), and that if a thing is only pressed upon him very closely he has an elastic mind which is always capable of expanding itself. Lord Salisbury himself told some of the Chambers of Commerce at home the other day, when he was making a speech,—"You must press us as much as ever you can. We officials are conservative; we are men who are very apt to relapse into our old ways, and to think regulation is commerce and forget what Free Trade really is; and it is only by having ourselves constantly freshened up by communication with you that we can be kept in the right path." I think we might act on this invitation, and request him to review the decision he came to last year. He told the people of Manchester a long time ago—"We are all free traders now." He might have said in the same way—"We are all Christians now:" but this acquiescence in a faith does not necessarily carry with it a thorough understanding of its principles or a consistent observance of the precepts it enjoins. Free Trade is understood in various ways. Certainly, we have been accustomed to look at Manchester as the head-quarters of that faith, much as a Roman Catholic looks to Rome for true inspiration; and I should be very much disappointed if I thought the real opinion of Manchester was favourable to continuance of this Act. I do not think it is so. I know something of Manchester and of Manchester men; and, if the question was placed fairly before them, I am sure they would repudiate the opinion of those influential mercantile men whom Mr. Ravenscroft consulted at home, and would show that they, who are trying to get the duty removed from their goods imported into India, would be the last men to support the continuance of a law which imposes an unnecessary tax on the raw cotton of Western India for the benefit, as is alleged, of Manchester manufacturers. I think, therefore, gentlemen, we have fair reason to hope that, if this matter is put fairly before the Secretary of State and the Manchester people, we shall get a reversal of the decision already passed, or at any rate we shall have the matter fairly discussed in the House of Commons. It is very well understood there that there are people in England who I do not think know much about the state of India at the present time, or the way in which trade is carried on here, who think India should be kept under constant tutelage; who are always wanting to improve our agriculture, to watch over our industries, control our trade, and correct our morals generally. Well, I think, we have taught them by this time that Indian agriculture is pretty well as good as they could hope to make it, while Indian industries have grown to such a height that they are afraid of them; and I think it is time we positively assured them that we are able to manage our own trade, and to look after our own affairs. (applause.)

Mr. Bythell said:—My opinions on the subject of the Cotton Frauds legislation have been laid before the public so very often and so very fully that I had almost made up my mind to say nothing on the present occasion; but after considering the matter during the last two or three days, I have decided to occupy your time for a short space, for two reasons. The men in the Cotton Frauds Department, and their friends like dying men, catch at any straw and one straw which seems to have afforded them an infinite amount of support of late has been the fact that merchants did not come forward on one occasion and reiterate their opinions on the subject. That argument was made use of by Sir Seymour Fitzgerald in 1871, and again by Mr Ravenscroft during the debates of the Legislative Council within the last week or two; and lest he should be of opinion that even I have gone over to the e[illegible], I think it would be as well that I should say a word [illegible]. I wish further to reply to some of the remarks th[illegible]een made by Mr. Ravenscroft and also by my[illegible] Mowat. In answer to the challenge to show [illegible] Act had done, Mr. Ravenscroft, at the last [illegible]he Legislative Council, said that an improvem[illegible]btedly taken place and that it must have bee[illegible]t, and for him no further argument was need[illegible]k it can really be proved that the facts are[illegible] that view. Up to 1869, as Mr. Maclean[illegible] it was the lament of the Department it[illegible]tricts where the Act was in force it was[illegible]tive. In fact, it was only from those [illegible]e Act was not in force that we were [illegible] cotton. Well, since that time there [illegible] improvement, and it is very easy to see[illegible]due entirely to private enterprise and n[illegible] the Cotton Frauds Department. Let u[illegible] with Berar. Mr. Ravenscroft mad[illegible]t what was good for the Berar goos[illegible]e Bombay gander, but if we shou[illegible]e never had the benefit of the sau[illegible]rgument is no better than the jok[illegible]n places to which I had referred the[illegible]ven more stringent than any in for[illegible]t. Now, the one district that has be[illegible]is Berar. I was in Berar in 1868 fo[illegible]tton buying, and certainly there w[illegible]n inspectors there then. The firm I[illegible]ve had several buying agencies t[illegible] no inspection since that time. [illegible]2 the buying agents were not even [illegible]ever been extended to Berar. Upon [illegible]Rivett-Carnac a few years prior to [illegible]Governor General, by a stroke of his

pen, did make the Cotton Frauds Act applicable to Berar, but no establishment was formed and no fees were levied there for the maintenance of the Act. In 1873, however when the Government of India published in the *Gazette of India* a list of the Acts which were at that time in force in Berar, and Act IX of 1863 was left out, so that since that time the Act has not even been in force in Berar; and even when it was, as I said before, no inspectors were ever appointed. Mr. Ravenscroft ridiculed the idea that any cause except the operation of the Act had anything to do with the improvement of cotton. He said we had railways and telegraphs before 1863, and they had not caused any improvement. We had, it is true, railways and telegraphs before 1863, but not to the same extent as now; and Mr. Ravenscroft overlooked the fact that before that time the force of competition had not resulted in the sending of European experts, as buyers up country to classify the cotton instead of shipping it under only one classification as used to be, the custom. As I came into the room this afternoon it just flashed across my mind that Mr. Rivett-Carnac, the Cotton Commissioner in Berar, who did much towards establishing markets in that district when he held office there, and induced the Viceroy to make the Cotton Frauds Act applicable to Berar, and to whom I believe Mr. Ravenscroft and others have looked up to as a great authority on the subject had stated as his opinion in one of his reports, that these buying agencies in the districts were the one remedy for adulteration likely to prove effective. In the Report for 1868-9, he writes:—"In my last report, a belief was expressed that, if the producer could be brought into more direct communication with the consumer, the one would soon learn that the other requires a clean, sound cotton, and would also realise that in the long run it pays better to bring good cotton to market than bad. The inducement to adulterate being thus removed a decrease in the practice might not unreasonably be expected. Although it has still many of the difficulties to deal with which a trade long in the hands of a certain class of natives is likely to offer (and during the past season these difficulties have been severely felt), the system of purchasing cotton through European agents in the interior is progressing the number of full-presses has increased; the facilities for transport are being perfected; and a Bombay merchant, if he requires pure Oomraotee cotton, can now without difficulty purchase it from a European agent in the interior who will ascertain whether the loose bags in which his customer brings his cotton to market contain dirt or stones, and who will ensure the consignment reaching Bombay in good condition in neatly packed full pressed bales. I believe if this system could be generally adopted, less would be heard of the adulteration of cotton. In fact, the system would amount to this—the European agents in the interior would act as a well qualified, interested, and hence in every way most efficient body of inspectors. My views on this subject, such as they are, will be found expressed at some length in a correspondence with the Chamber of Commerce, Madras, given in appendix E. to this Report." The Chamber of Commerce at Madras had asked Mr. Rivett Carnac to give an opinion on the Cotton Frauds Act in Bombay, and in answer to the request, he wrote:—"Whilst crediting the Cotton Frauds Act with certain merits, I have always held that there are influences at work in these provinces which are quite as powerful to prevent the adulteration of cotton as the stringent provisions of the Bill. This view I express solely with reference to the part of the country in which I serve, and of the circumstances of which I may be supposed to possess some knowledge, and regarding which I have perhaps acquired some right to speak. These influences and their effects I have attempted to describe in the concluding chapter of my Report for the year 1867-68, to which allusion has already been made, and a copy of which accompanies this letter for facility of reference. During the last two or three years a great change has taken place in the manner in which our trade is conducted. * * * You will see then that, in my opinion, the most successful means for preventing adulteration is to bring the cultivator and the European purchaser of cotton into direct communication. The European agent now comes into the market and pays a high price for good cotton, whereas he will not touch inferior or adulterated cotton save at a considerable reduction below the prevailing rate for good cotton. The system of examining and sampling is so the *dokra*, or loose bag, in the up-country [redacted] thorough, that there is not much chance of "[redacted]" good cotton passing unchallenged. The ryots now [redacted] to the reason to know that they will be paid [redacted] there is quality of the article they bring to market, [redacted] stuff, a better demand for pure cotton than [redacted] good it really does not pay them to mix [redacted] etch a cotton, which, in its pure state, is [redacted] t half good price, and to run the risk [redacted] of the for the mixture. The cotton once in [redacted] ing it. European agent, there is no fear [redacted] tation He has his constituents to please. [redacted] cts the has a skilful cotton sampler to [redacted] lose at the best cotton he can get, and [redacted] s, and hand, packs the bale, binds it secur[redacted] on its precludes the possibility of its be[redacted] ctures' journey from the up-country ma[redacted] ystem, premises in Europe. The more [redacted] ties to which is still imperfect, and ha[redacted] there battle with, can be extended, t[redacted] r side of enlisting that powerful agen[redacted] d the and making it militate again[redacted] ark is, moral I would desire to draw[redacted] ion in that on the perfecting of the [redacted] culties the interior, and on the remov[redacted] ant in which now beset the path of [redacted] r the Central India, we must dep[redacted] other prevention of the adulterati[redacted] nment means which it may be with[redacted] e, and to adopt. Such, at least, h[redacted] r the believing firmly in this [redacted] lf in instructions of Governm[redacted] ade to ascertaining what arrangem[redacted] cotton facilitate the means of co[redacted] s, the districts; and the construct[redacted] aphic opening out of roads, and the[redacted] sures and postal communications, [redacted] those have been steadily urged." I [redacted] g ex- remarks made by Mr. Rivet[redacted] than perience in one of the cotton d[redacted] made anything I can say the absu[redacted] erars about the Government inspec[redacted] that having caused all the impr[redacted] at in district. You see that Mr. [redacted]

his opinion the most efficient mode of preventing adulteration is to bring the European exporter and the cultivator into direct communication, and yet Mr. Ravenscroft ridicules the idea that such influences have any effect. Now, as to Khandeish. It is true that a great improvement has taken place, but any one who knows the district will corroborate what I say, that the improvement is entirely owing to the fact that the energetic Collector, Mr. Ashburner, now one of the Revenue Commissioners, managed, by using his influence, to have Hingunghat seed planted in that district. He did that—not the Cotton Frauds Department; and that is why Khandeish cotton now, instead of being coarse short-stapled stuff as formerly, ranks with Omraotee cotton in the home markets. Then, as to Guzerat. Up to 1869, in spite of all the efforts of the Cotton Frauds Department, adulteration was rampant. I remember in 1869, the whole Broach crop came down mixed with seeds and sand. We merchants scarcely dared to touch it; it was so bad we could not estimate how much the loss on it might be. That was, however, the last season of great adulteration in Guzerat. I challenged Mr. Ravenscroft to say whether he still maintained that the improvement in Broach cotton from that time was due to the Cotton Frauds Department, but he did not answer the question, and I believe he could not answer it, for it is well known that from that time dates the establishment of steam ginning machinery in Broach and the introduction of ginned Broach cotton into the English Markets. Since then, Broach cotton, with the exception of Hingunghat, has brought higher prices than any other Indian cotton in the home markets. Private enterprise came in, and I say the whole of the improvement is due, not in any way to the Cotton Frauds Department, but to private enterprise; and I defy anyone to adduce one single fact in proof of the opposite statement. Then, take Dharwar Cotton. Mr. Mowat alluded to Dharwar, and said that the cause of adulteration there was that the indigenous and exotic seeds were planted in the same fields. But the adulteration from that source in saw ginned cotton is what we may call a minor adulteration. I think it does not proceed from an admixture of the seed before planting, but from an admixture of seed with the cotton after it is ginned. It is a singular fact that just as the Cotton Frauds Department was powerless to keep admixture from the Guzerat bales until other influences were brought to bear, it has been utterly unable to prevent admixture of the seed in the *dokras* of Compta and Vingorla cotton after it has been ginned. My difficulty is that anything I may say is a repetition of what I have often said before. I think I have adduced facts enough, however, to show that the improvement is not due to the Cotton Frauds Department, and that the statements made as to the Government inspection of cotton in Berar are utterly incorrect. Then, as to the other argument about the Liverpool and Manchester merchants being in favour of the Act. First of all, I maintain that even if they had expressed an opinion in its favour, considering the way in which the question was put to them, their reply, to the question would go for nothing. They have been asked first "Has not Indian cotton improved of late?" and have said "Yes," and then they have been told—"It is due to this Act" and asked "Don't you think it ought to be maintained?" whereupon they have again answered "Yes." Gentlemen to whom the question was put told me so. And as for Mr. Ravenscroft's statement about merchants in Liverpool and Manchester being in favour of the Act, I was in Manchester when the report of Mr. Ravenscroft's notice of his intention to bring forward this new Bill came there, and I took the opportunity of talking with the present chairman of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on the subject, and also with one or two members of the Committee, and the exceptions, were very much against with very few, even on the one-sided information that such legislation before them. I heard from other merchants had been pressure had been brought to bear in London that Lord Salisbury by gentlemen who were not connected with the cotton trade, but who went up to London at the request of men in the Cotton Department and their friends, and endeavoured—to use an Indian expression—to *sumjao* his Lordship to have this legislation maintained. One of these gentlemen was the ex-secretary of the Cotton Supply Association, and I could if I chose mention a few others; but these men did not go representing any public body,—they went merely on their own account. And I can say, from the conversations I had with many mercantile men in Manchester, when the report of Mr. Ravenscroft's intention to introduce this new Bill arrived there, that the majority of the Manchester merchants are certainly not in favour of it. One subject has not been touched upon in our discussion of this Bill, and Mr. Ravenscroft, though I mentioned the matter in the letter which I wrote to the *Bombay Gazette*, did not touch upon it in the course of the debates of the Legislative Council, and that is the injustice of levying fees on the Berar cotton, and the large quantities of cotton grown in native territory, which the inspectors never see, in order to keep up the Department here. I remember that after I referred to this matter in the Chamber of Commerce on a previous occasion, Major Moore, in one of his Administration Reports, stung, I suppose, by my remarks, said that although some of the cotton on which fees were levied was not grown in the Presidency, still the whole export did ultimately come under the inspector's supervision and that this inspection exercised a very deterrent effect. Now, you all know that the Berar cotton has been full pressed up-country for some years, and to say that this cotton comes under the inspectors' supervision is to say what is untrue. I think we should call the attention of the Marquis of Salisbury to that fact, that fees are levied not only on cotton grown in the assigned districts, but on cotton grown in native territories, so that there is a tax in the shape of a transit duty levied on all such cotton for the maintenance of the Cotton Frauds Inspectors in Bombay. I had intended to say something about the general principle of legislation of this nature, but as our time is getting short and as previous speakers have referred at some length and with great ability to that view of the question, I will not occupy the attention of the meeting any longer. I have forgotten, however, to mention one point. Mr. Mowat said he considered the example Mr. Lang adduced of the frauds in the linseed trade was in favour of the legislation rather than against it. I was rather amazed at this, because Mr. Lang said that when linseed was adulterated to the extent of 10 or 15 per cent., a simple combination of the merchants remedied the evil to a very great extent without having recourse to legislation. I can not see how Mr. Mowat can found on that statement an argument to support legislation for the protection of trade. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cursetjee Dinshaw Khumbatta said although several speakers had argued the question before the meeting very extensively, still one or two points had been left out, which he might perhaps be admitted to refer to. He was of opinion that the general criminal law in itself was a powerful influence in the hands of Government to stop adulteration; the Fouzdars were a regular terror to evil minded adulterators, but the special Act, though it had been made so stringent, had proved almost a failure. In the present civilized times people did not require the fostering care of Government to protect their own interests; they were able to look after themselves. In the case of the linsed trade, adulteration arose with the high price of the seed prompted by the self-interest of the dealers, and the self-interest of the buyers equally prompted them to look after themselves. If there must be legislation for cotton, why not also for linseed or wheat, or any other product of Western India? Why should people be tormented by legislation which was prejudicial to their own interests? He said there was no necessity for such legislation, and he wished to enter his protest against it. The great argument of the representatives of Government was that it was to the Imperial interest of Government to look after its important sources of income. He argued that as long as cotton could be produced here and was required by merchants and manufacturers in England, it would be produced and sent. Whether the quality was good or bad, it should be left to the producer and the purchaser to decide. Did they ignore their own interests? No. Then why should Government interfere in the matter? It had been said that the Cotton Frauds Act had done wonders; but he said no, and he agreed that the presence of European agents up-country, the system of ginning and pressing the cotton in the interior, and the improved facilities for carriage and communication had effected the change in the character of Indian cotton. The great source of mischief used to be the middle man, who played all sorts of tricks and made the merchants his dupe, but he had been removed by the agents sent out by the European firms, who now went into the heart of the country and purchased what cotton they pleased. Legislative interference did not assist the trade, it only did harm to it. The new Bill especially would give immense powers to the inspectors and sub-inspectors. There were cotton markets now all over the country,—every little village had its market, and the inspectors could not be expected to supervise the transactions in every one of them.

Mr. Bickerdike—I think the issues based on this question are so much wider and so much more important now than when it was first raised, that it is the bounden duty of everyone to do his best to protest against the exceptional legislation that is going on in the shape of the Cotton Frauds Act. The old Act was useless and almost harmless, but now we are brought face to face with a Bill comprising clauses which may make innocent persons guilty and punish them as guilty persons, and which provides also for the improvement of the growth and for experiments in the manufacture of cotton. This is an instance of the danger of allowing a temporary consent to evils which on all other occasions are held to be pernicious. Reference has been made to the action taken by the Committee of this Chamber when consulted with regard to the cultivation of Khandeish cotton seed in Berar. The Committee were asked to give an opinion as to whether it was better that Berar or Khandeish cotton should be used. It was a matter of opinion, and the opinion of the Committee was given that it would be a bad thing to allow the Khandeish seed to be sown in Berar. That has been made a handle of to say that this Chamber is not averse to Government interference. Again, it has been said that in 1863 not only were the Bombay merchants but the merchants of Liverpool and Manchester in favour of this legislation; but it must be known to every one that there are critical and trying occasions when things are unsettled and ordinary principles may be departed from, but that is only as a temporary measure and never would be consented to as permanent. In this spirit, the merchants at home no doubt, being pressed by the cotton famine which occurred during the American war, were quite ready to consent to special legislation in India, and the merchants of Bombay were also placed in the same position on account of the position of the cotton trade in those days. I am not going back to 1829 or 1851, or even to 1863. We do not want to discuss legislation for those days, but for our own day and for our own requirements; and Mr. Bythell has very ably shown that in these days we do not require any Act for the protection of the cotton trade. I can thoroughly endorse everything he has said. My own experience in Bombay and also in the interior quite coincides with his. In 1863, and for some years after that, we all know the regular system of the trade was that the cotton was simply piled up together and the buyer selected the best cotton he could get out of that pile. There was then no special inducement to produce any other class of cotton; there was no necessity for it. All cotton was bought according to the fair average of the season's crop; but when communication with the interior began to be developed, and steamers commenced to ply direct to the different principle ports of the world, and merchants were brought into direct contact with the spinners, they began to feel at once the necessities of trade. We got orders out from home then, not for the fair average of the season, but for fine qualities of cotton; and for 10 years past I have been preaching to the Bombay native merchants to select their cotton and that if they did not do so the trade would go out of their hands. Thus, the trade has required that the cotton should be selected and paid for according to its value; and

the improvement of the staple has been brought about by the requirements of the trade and perfectly independent of the Cotton Frauds Act. Broach cotton affords an instance of the improvements which have taken place directly owing to the requirements of the trade. I recollect seeing the first gins ever worked in Broach by Mr. Greaves, of the firm of Messrs. Greaves, Cotton, and Co. There was a great prejudice against Broach cotton, and we had orders out from England on no account to ship ginned cotton. But Mr. Greaves knew the value of the cotton was good, and by steady perseverance the buyers of Europe have been brought to recognise its value, and now from 3rd or 4th rate cotton it has risen up to the second place. That is due to private enterprise entirely. We have been told lately that this Act is only a parallel of other Acts. Mr. Bryce I think has disposed very ably and fully of this argument, if it could be called an argument. It is really astonishing that nothing better could be produced. All Great Britain, Europe and even America seem to have been searched, and the only acts which were said to correspond with this were these. It was said the German and French Governments of the tobacco trade, that there was a miserable Act in Ireland regarding flax, and that in America there was power to punish people for perpetrating frauds in cotton. Other comparisons it was stated could be made, but they were not made, and if they were on a par with those that were made, I think they would have gone for nothing. There appears to be an idea that adulteration in the cotton trade was due to a gang of swindlers who wished to destroy that trade. It has been said that those who deal in cotton are so careless that they need this special legislation to take care of them. But what do we find are the facts in the face of such assertions as these? I remember that some years ago, during the American War, it was stated that Indian cotton was so adulterated that it was looked upon with contempt by the spirited manufacturers in Manchester. But we must go farther back than that Indian cotton, particularly Surats, was called "swipes" and other such names long before, but during the American War Indian cotton was pressed upon manufacturers and spinners at home owing to the famine; and if the trade has lost its status the export of Indian cotton will have gone down to what it was before the American War. But what we find to be actually the case is the very opposite. Before the American War, the whole export of cotton from Bombay amounted to 200,000 bales a year, and now it is somewhere about a million bales a year. That is a clear proof, therefore, that in spite of the cessation of the American War and the renewed supply of American cotton to the home markets in such large quantities, Indian cotton has obtained a market at home; that there is a demand for it, and that in spite of opposition of other cotton producing countries, Indian cotton has maintained the position it succeeded after a great struggle in getting to. I think if there were any proof wanting this would be quite sufficient to dispel the erroneous notions existing as to the cotton trade and to show that those who have it in hand know what they are about; that the trade will not suffer from being left alone, but is quite able to take care of itself. (Applause.)

The Chairman then put the resolution to the meeting and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Mowat—I have much pleasure in proposing the next resolution;—"That, in particular, apart from the unnecessary provisions and the objectionable principles of this special legislation, the new offences created, and the arbitrary powers of confiscation given, under the Bombay Cotton Frauds Bill, 1877, are certain to lead to extreme hardship, and this meeting therefore protests against Sections 6 and 14 of the Bill which empower the Magistrate or Court to confiscate and destroy any adulterated cotton, wherever it may be found; and it further protests against section 22 of the Bill which authorises the proceeds of special taxation upon a particular, and already over-burdened trade, to be applied to the purpose of promoting and improving the cultivation and manufacture of cotton." Mr. Mowat added—I feel it unnecessary to say anything in support of this resolution because in speaking to the previous motion I embraced all the points I could wish to allude to in regard to this.

Mr. Marshall seconded the resolution. He said he did so with very great pleasure indeed, but he was afraid he should not be able to restrict himself solely to the points referred to in it. If he understood the matter properly, that meeting had been called with the view of adding to the evidence which had already been brought forward in opposition to the Cotton Frauds Act. That being the case, in addition to reviewing the clauses referred to in the resolution, he should wish to record his experiences generally against the Act. He must, therefore, go back to the first proposition. A great deal was said when the new Bill was introduced about the want of evidence on the part of the trade, and this was made a handle of by Mr. Ravenscroft and used as an argument in favour of legislation. He thought the merchants were very much in the position of a barrister in a Court of Law. They saw that a great deal of evidence had been brought forward—he, for instance, could only have said *ditto* to what was stated by Mr. Bythell—and there was no use in burdening the Commission with a superfluity of testimony. He would now, however, take the opportunity of saying, after considerable experience in the cotton trade, that this legislation was utterly unnecessary. He had watched the working of the Act, and had had practical experience of it both in Bombay and up-country, and, as far as he could make out, the Act had had no influence whatever for good on the cotton trade of the Presidency. The improvements had been effected by the force of circumstances and by the altered state of trade; a chief cause had been really the altered mode of buying and selling in Liverpool. The Act certainly carried certain punishments for adulterating cotton, but he did not see how that improved the staple. And the change that had taken place in its character was very marked. Only a few years ago, merchants sold cotton by only one standard—the fair average of the season, but now in Dhollera alone there were something like 12 different grades, which had been arranged to meet the requirements of buyers and manufacturers at home. Merchants had to meet those requirements here, and to do so more thoroughly they had naturally to establish agencies up-country. Thus they were able to secure cotton direct, before it could be mixed by the middle man. They had now, he thought, secured a system of trade which enabled them to do to this to very great perfection. In Berar this was the case particularly, and that district had been shown to be uninfluenced by the Act. The nearest trade to cotton was wool, which also came forward in loose country bales and was baled up, and which was in many other respects like cotton. He had never heard anything about the desirability of an Act to protect wool; but he had known of instances where wool had been fraudulently adulterated, and in one case, under the ordinary criminal law of the country, a man was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment for so doing. If that could be done with regard to wool, why not also in respect of cotton? To come to the particular resolution which he had been asked to second, section 6 and 14 of the Bill were therein specially alluded to. Section 6 made it lawful for an inspector of cotton to seize and retain any cotton, wherever it might be, which he had reason to believe was liable to confiscation. He (Mr. Marshall) wished to know why cotton should be selected as the subject of this particular legislation, why should cotton be dealt with in this extraordinary fashion? And why should it not be seized on the same terms in Liverpool or Manchester? If it were an article of food or liquor, adulteration of which would injure people, he would say, protect it by legislation by all means; but in the case of cotton, an ordinary article of commerce, there was no need for anything of the kind. That the performance of these duties, and by irresponsible persons, hampered trade, there could not be the slightest doubt. An inspector could at any moment, without dread of punishment, interfere with and stop a shipment of 500 bales of cotton, and entail a serious loss on the merchant, without the least occasion. The detention of a shipment of cotton from day to day was a serious thing, and yet a shipload might be kept waiting for 7 days before any inquiry was made. In shipping cotton from Bombay, the last tide by which it could be shipped was calculated, and if it was not shipped to England by a certain time, the shipper was liable to have his cotton depreciated as much as ¾d. per lb. as the market now is. The framers of this 6th section could scarcely have understood its important character when they framed it. Then as to the question of what should constitute adulteration, the provisions of the Bill were so loosely expressed that it was utterly impossible to say really what was adulteration and what was not adulteration. Col. Anderson, in the Legislative Council, said he would define the amount of admixture of foreign matter which should be held to constitute adulteration at 10 per cent. A little practical experience would have told him that there was scarcely a bale of cotton shipped from Bombay which did not contain 10 per cent. of foreign matter. The loss in weight in Surat cotton was from 10 to 20 per cent., and in Coomta cotton as much as 30 per cent. If the standard had been fixed at 10 per cent., it would have been competent for the inspectors to stop and confiscate every bale. It might be all very well to say nothing of that kind was contemplated; but he did not see why they should have an Act hanging over their heads without any purpose. Either it was good for something or good for nothing. If it was to be used, it might be the means of ruining the trade any time the inspectors took it into their heads to enforce their powers; and if it was not to be used, why should they have to pay for the maintenance of a number of men to do nothing. Section 22 was also alluded to in the resolution. That was a provision for applying the fees to the improvement of cotton. He (Mr. Marshall) was strongly of opinion that the representations made would be sufficient to prevent the Act from going further; but if everything they could do should prove insufficient to stop this legislation from proceeding, he thought it behoved them to see that the money extracted from the trade was applied in a proper way. This Cotton Improvement Funds he thought, was one of the most absurd things of modern times. Little gardens were established in different places, and the promoters pretended they were finding out a great deal for the benefit of the trade; but in spite of all the experiments that had been made—and wonderful they were, according to the Cotton Reports—he had not heard of a single native cultivator making use of the experiences these cotton gardens were supposed to have given him the advantage of. As the time was getting late, he would cut his remarks short, and would content himself with seconding the resolution.

Mr. Bryce wished to make a remark as to the change of principle introduced by section 22 of the new Bill. Mr Rogers had pointed out in his speech in the Legislative Council that there was a remarkable change of principle introduced by it, because formerly somebody had to be convicted of fraud before the cotton could be confiscated, but under this section of the present Bill no conviction was necessary to confiscation; the intelligent inspector had merely to satisfy the magistrate of the correctness of his opinion that a quantity of cotton was adulterated and it would have to be confiscated. He thought they should protest in the strongest terms against this change of principle, and also against the application of the fees to cotton improvement, which was an entirely new thing in legislation in England or her dependencies. There was just one other point which had not been touched upon, and that was the object which the merchants of Bombay, as represented by that meeting, had in opposing the maintenance of this legislation. Mr. Ravenscroft had said the opposition was entirely in the interests of the merchants of Bombay; but Mr. Graham very well pointed out at the same time that it did not matter to the merchants at all, but was entirely a question affecting the consumer. Mr. Ravenscroft said it was a matter of opinion upon whom the tax fell, which was a little painful, for at this time of day there should scarcely be a doubt in the minds of our legislators upon whom the incidence of a tax would fall. In the case of the cotton exported from Bombay the tax fell on the first consumer, the spinner in Manchester, and then on the person who bought the manufactured goods. But Bombay cotton competed with American cotton, and it might be that if Bombay cotton rose in price above a certain point, it would not be bought at all, American cotton being bought instead. Then the merchant in Bombay could not afford to give so high a price to the native ryot as if there had been no tax imposed, and in that case, as the merchant worked in Bombay for a profit similar to the profit all over the world, and which is not affected by any special tax in Bombay, the tax would have to come out of the cotton, which would lessen the amount of money the ryot received for it, and in the long run that would drive a certain amount of land out of cultivation and, therefore, affect the revenue the Government derived from the land. In no case could the incidence of the tax fall on the merchant; it did not affect him one way or the other, and to try to throw on the shoulders of the Bombay merchants the invidious distinction of being the people who were opposing the Act merely in their own interests, was an entire overlooking of the real facts of the case and the principles of political economy which clearly show where the incidence of such a tax falls. (Hear, hear.)

On the resolution being put to the vote, it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Vrijbhookundass Atmaram moved:—"That the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce be requested, on behalf of this meeting, to submit the foregoing resolutions to His Excellency the Viceroy, and to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, with memorials praying that they will, in exercise of their respective powers, veto and disallow the Bombay Cotton Frauds Bill, 1877, and that a petition be presented to the House of Commons, and entrusted to the care of Mr. Fawcett, the distinguished member for Hackney, praying for redress of the grievances to which the cotton trade of Western India is, by useless and unnecessary special legislation, subjected." Mr. Vrijbhookundass said—Gentlemen, as you have been detained here very long this evening, I think it is needless for me to go into other minor defects of this Act, since those already pointed out by the former speakers are sufficient to ensure its condemnation; and although this Act, in itself unnecessary, in its operation severe, and in its incidence unjust, has passed, by a majority of official members, the Local Legislative Council, yet I certainly trust that His Excellency the Viceroy, who has already distinguished himself by his large sympathies and liberal views, will not sanction a measure so utterly opposed to all principles of jurisprudence and free trade. Again, in selecting Mr. Fawcett, gentlemen, to plead your cause before the British Parliament, I need hardly say that you cannot make a better choice. The able manner in which he has, at different times, in and out of Parliament, discussed Indian matters, the energy and tenacity with which he has supported his views, and the sympathetic interest he has always taken in the advancement, social and political, of this country and its people, have already given him a firm seat in the grateful hearts of my countrymen, and I therefore venture to assert, without fear of contradiction, that in entrusting your cause to Mr. Fawcett you will entrust it to an advocate of known and tried abilities, who will, to say the least, do ample justice to this most important subject.

Mr. Tapidass Vurjdass seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Mowat, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, and the meeting separated after a discussion which occupied upwards of three hours and a half.

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A CIRCULAR has just been issued to all Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners in Oudh, informing them that His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General intends to hold a Durbar at Lucknow about the end of this month. They are directed to inform the talookdars of their respective districts, and to submit lists of all talookdars who may wish to attend the Durbar

[redacted]onnent sends the *Pioneer* the record of [redacted]ic incident which deserves special no[redacted] horsekeeper," he writes, "who gets th[redacted]nce per month, was lately sued in co[redacted]l debt, and the court has served m[redacted]rdering me not to pay the man hi[redacted]s, but to pay them into court. It [redacted]me how the man and his family co[redacted] on the wages they received, bu[redacted]r mystery how they are to live w[redacted] at all. People in England are ne[redacted]ourt of justice to keep back a la[redacted]ges. Why should we be asked to[redacted]he *Pioneer* adds:—The bare st[redacted]ase presents it so powerfully to[redacted]nd that it would hardly be p[redacted]nt to emphasize its hardness. J[redacted]me as an omnibus, only runs n[redacted]ons, like a London cab, but B[redacted] van of its own through the co[redacted]els. turn always where the cr[redacted] are fed with victims whom n[redacted] awaits to repay them for th[redacted]

P[redacted]he Proprietor, JAMES MACKENZIE [redacted]nbay Gazette" Steam Press, Meadow[redacted]

[redacted]EORGE STREET, 3[redacted], Cornhill, E. C. [redacted]GNANI and Co., Publishers, Rue de [redacted]ssrs. THACKER, SPINK and Co.—[redacted]ROAH and Co.

REGISTERED No. L—1877.

# The Bombay Gazette.

[With Supplement.

No. 8,776.—New Series. BOMBAY :—MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1877.

## THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

THE Rates of Subscription to the *Bombay Gazette* will for the future be as follows:—

TO SUBSCRIBERS IN BOMBAY—*Delivered free.*

| *In Advance.* | | *In Arrear.* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Per Annum | Rs. 48 | Per Annum | Rs. 60 |
| Half-yearly | 25 | Half-yearly | 31 |
| Quarterly | 13 | Quarterly | 16 |
| Monthly | 5 | Monthly | 6 |

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| *In Advance.* | | *In Arrear.* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Per Annum | Rs. 52 | Per Annum | Rs. 65 |
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| Quarterly | 16 | Quarterly | 20 |
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Ten Lines and under—

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| First insertion | Rs. | 5 0 |
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| Third do. | | 2 8 |
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| | |
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| First insertion | 8 As. per Line. |
| Second do. | 4½ „ „ |
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In the Native Languages, double the above.

For Advertisements which are to be inserted for a considerable time special contracts may be made.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements of two or three lines relating to such matters as Small Sales, Business Cards, Situations, Wanted or Servants Required, Houses or Lodgings to Let, Changes of Residence, Articles Lost or Found.

The scale for Advertisements belonging to any of these classes will be as follows :—

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|---|---|
| Not exceeding three lines | Rs. 1-0 |
| Each succeeding line | 0-8 As. |

Advertisement exceeding five lines will be charged for at our present ordinary rates.

No Advertisement will be inserted for less than *One Rupee*, and payment must in all cases be made in *Cash*.

All Advertisements are charged according to the space occupied in Nonpareil, or smallest type, 12 lines of which go to the inch.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES : EACH—TWO RUPEES.

All Cheques, Money Orders, and other Remittances should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

## SHIPPING.

WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST, CEYLON, MADRAS, AND CALCUTTA.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under contract with Government, will despatch the S. S. PENANG, 700 Tons, 120 H. P., Commander T. H. Franks, on SATURDAY, the 31st March 1877, at 4 P.M., calling at Rutnagherry, Vingorla, Goa, Carwar, Mangalore, Cannanore, Tellicherry, Calicut, Beypore, Cochin, Alleppee, Tuticherry, Colombo, Negapatam, Pondicherry, Madras, Masulipatam, Coconada, Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam, Gopalpore, False Point and at any other place where inducement offers.

Cargo for Singapore and China can be booked fortnightly by the steamers on this line hence or from intermediate ports for transhipment at Galle to the Steamers of the Compagnie des Messageries which run Maritimes de la France which run regularly.

N.B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, VIA KURRACHEE.

Interchanging Cargo and Passengers at Bussorah, to and from Bagdad, with the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company or other Steamers.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Mail Contract with Government, will despatch the S. S. PACHUMBA, 870 Tons, 140 H.P., Commander J. Melville, on THURSDAY, the 29th March, 1877, at 4 P.M., to the PERSIAN GULF PORTS, viz., KURRACHEE, GWADER, JASK, BUNDERABBAS, LINGA, BUSHIRE, FAO, BUSREH and occasionally at BAHREIN and MAHOMERAH.

N.B—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

BI-WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Mail Contract with Government, will, during the Fair Season, despatch a Steamer to Kurrachee every THURSDAY at 4 P.M., and an Extra Steamer on every TUESDAY at 10 A.M.

The S. S. VINGORLA, 572 Tons, 136 H. P., Commander A. Gray, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 27th March, 1877, at 10 A.M., calling at Veraval, Pore Bunder, Mangrole and Cutch Mandvie.

The S. S. PACHUMBA, 870 Tons, 140 H. P., Commander J. Melville, will be despatched on THURSDAY, the 29th March 1877, at 4 P.M.

N.B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH ITALY VIA SUEZ CANAL.

ITALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY of Messrs. R. RUBATTINO & Co., GENOA.

THE REGULAR STEAMERS LEAVE GENOA and BOMBAY on the 24th, of each month.

*For extra steamers see list given below.*

PASSENGERS' RATES.

Inclusive of all Transit Fees through the Suez Canal.)

| | 1st Class. | 2nd Class. | 3rd Class. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aden | £22 | £15 | £4 | Without food. |
| Suez | 26 | 22 | 8 | |
| Port Said | 33 | 24 | 9 | |
| Messina | 50 | 34 | 14 | Including Wines |
| Naples | 50 | 34 | 14 | |
| Leghorn | 50 | 34 | 14 | |
| Genoa | 50 | 34 | 14 | |
| Marseilles | 52 | 35 | 14-10 | |

Children under 3 years—free of charge. Children not above 10 years—half fare.

NEXT STEAMERS FROM BOMBAY :—

PERSIA, to sail on SATURDAY, 31st March 1877.
SUMATRA to sail on SUNDAY, 1st April 1877.
ASSIRIA to sail on SUNDAY, 15th April 1877.
BATAVIA, to sail on TUESDAY, 1st May 1877.
INDIA, to sail on SUNDAY, 20th May 1877.
AUSTRALIA, to sail on FRIDAY, 1st June 1877.

All Steamers of this Company have large First and Second Class accommodation; and always carry a Doctor and a Stewardess on board.

The steamers of this Company, as a rule, start precisely at 10 A.M. Any unavoidable detention will, however, be advertised at least one day previously.

For hand-books of information, rates of freight, &c., apply to

C. GRONDONA,
Agent Rubattino Steam Navigation Company,
No. 9, Hummum Street.

Bombay, 20th January 1877.

STEAM TO ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MALTA AND GIBRALTAR.

S. PETERSBURG, about 2,600 Tons, Register, Captain Barnetson, will sail on or before 1st proximo,

For Passage, &c., apply to

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., Agents.

ANCHOR LINE—INDIAN SERVICE.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID AND MALTA.

THE S. S. TUSCANY will sail on SATURDAY, the 31st inst., positively.

She has very comfortable accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers.

For Passage, &c., apply to

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 21st March 1877.

ANCHOR LINE—INDIAN SERVICE.

BOMBAY TO NAPLES & LIVERPOOL, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE S.S. EUROPA, Capt. Harris, will sail on WEDNESDAY, the 18th April. She will be followed by the—

S. S. ITALIA,

2,345 Tons Register and 424 H.P. nominal, on the 2nd May, and by the—

S. S. INDIA,

2,389 Tons Register, 500 H.P. nominal, on the 23rd May, and by the—

S. S. MACEDONIA,

2,272 Tons Register, 486 H.P. nominal, on the 6th June.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY.

TO NAPLES ..... Rs. 490
TO LIVERPOOL ..... Rs. 560

Passengers desirous of making a short stay in Italy, may disembark at Naples and proceed on to Liverpool by the following steamer, and passengers disembarking at Naples can have their heavy baggage taken on to Liverpool without any extra charge.

Messrs. HOLME & Co., the Company's Agents at Naples, will render any assistance and tender any information required by the Passengers.

For passage, &c., apply to

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 21st March 1877.

HALL LINE OF STEAMERS.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

S. S. CHILDWALL HALL, Captain Throarther, will sail on the 4th April. This steamer is already full but she will be followed by her

S. S. TRENTH M HALL, Captain JAMES SHAW,

on the 21st pril and by the

S. S. BRANKSOME HALL, Captain KENNETH HORE,

On the 19th May.

For passage, apply to

W. & A. GRAHAM & COMPANY, or to

KING, KING & Co.

Bombay, 17th March 1877.

## SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

THE following or other first-class Vessels will be despatched for EUROPE :—

| Vessels. | Tons. | H.P. | Captains. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S. MONGOLIA | 2833 | 530 | A. Coleman | 26th Mar. |
| — PERA | 2119 | 450 | Geo. Hyde | 2nd April. |
| S. MIRZAPORE | 3761 | 600 | A. Parish | 9th do. |
| — SIAM | 3090 | 500 | N W. Haselwood | 16th do. |
| S. MALWA | 2933 | 450 | P. S. Tomlin | 23rd do. |
| — NIZAM | 2725 | 450 | A. E. Barlow | 30th do. |
| S. ASSAM | 3363 | 500 | N. Stewart | 7th May. |
| — THIBET | 2591 | 400 | G. F. Cates | 14th do. |
| S. SURAT | 3141 | 530 | G. C. Burne | 21st do. |

Passengers are booked to ADEN, SUEZ, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, MARSEILLES, MALTA, GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON by every Mail. The Steamers marked S. proceed direct to Southampton; but by the others Passengers change vessels at Suez, and those for Brindisi, Ancona, Venice, and Marseilles are conveyed by Rail from Suez to Alexandria.

A small Steamer will leve the New Dock Head at Mazagon, at 3 P.M. precisely on the day of sailing.

F. D. PARKER, Acting Superintendent.

Bombay, 24th February 1877.

STEAM TO CEYLON, PENANG, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

On TUESDAY, the 3rd April 1877, at 3 P. M., from Mazagon.

THE P. and O. Co.'s S.S. ZAMBESI, (2,431 Tons and 370 H. P.), Captain A. Symons, will be despatched as above, carrying H. M.'s Mails, and taking also Passengers and Cargo for Madras and Calcutta.

No Cargo will be received on board after sunset on the day previous to sailing, and no brokerage will be allowed on any chest of Opium, the Officer's receipt for which is not lodged in the Company's Office before Noon, on SATURDAY, the 31st March 1877.

F. D. PARKER, Acting Superintendent.

Bombay, 23th March 1877.

STEAM TO KING GEORGE'S SOUND, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, AND SYDNEY.

THE following Steamers will be despatched for the above ports calling at Galle),

| Vessels. | Tons. | H.P. |
|---|---|---|
| TANJORE | 2263 | 450 |
| TRAVANCORE | 1900 | 350 |
| BANGALORE | 2063 | 500 |

Capt W.H Pockley 31st Mar. at 3 P. M
Capt W. Barratt, 28th April at 3 P. M.
Capt G.N. Hector 14th May at 3 P. M.

F. D. PARKER, Acting Superintendent.

Bombay, 6th March 1877.

"WILSON" LINE.

LIVERPOOL *VIA* SUEZ CANAL.

TO LEAVE ABOUT 4TH APRIL.

THE S. S. RINALDO, 1,840 Tons, will be despatched as above. She has excellent accommodation andsbins for a limited number of First-Class Passengers.

For Passage and further particulars apply to

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., Passenger Agents.
KILLICK, NIXON & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 1st March 1877.

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOW READY,

BOMBAY GAZETTE OVERLAND SUMMARY.

The *BOMBAY GAZETTE OVERLAND SUMMARY*, prepared for despatch by each Overland Mail for Europe, contains, in addition to all the News of the Week, a specially-written Market and Freight Report, and a well-digested Summary of Events.

Annual Subscription (in advance) Rs. 12
Single Copy ..... Annas 4

"Bombay Gazette" Office, Meadow Street, Fort.

NOW READY,

THE BOMBAY PRICE CURRENT AND SUMMARY OF TRADE.

Published once a week at the *Bombay Gazette* Office, on the departure of the Overland Mail for Europe.

The Bombay Price Current contains—
A Specially-Written Market Report.
Freight Reports, &c.
Summary of Cotton Exports during the week.
Imports and Exports of Bullion.
Quotations of Imports and Exports, and Customs' Duties.
Comparative Summary of Exports from Bombay, up to date as per Ships' Manifests, with the total Exports for the month, and for the same period as far back as 1867 and 1875 respectively.
Comparative Summaries of Imports of Piece Goods and of Yarn into Bombay from Great Britain up to date with the total for the month and the same period as far back as 1865 and 1875 respectively.
Share List and Rates of Exchange.
List of Vessels in Bombay Harbour on the date of publication, arrivals and departures of Vessels during the week, and Vessels expected from Out and Home Ports.
Charters and Engagements.

Annual Subscription in advance..... Rs. 10
Single Copy ..... Annas 4

"Bombay Gazette" Office Meadow Street, Fort.

THE KHANDEISH SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS COMPANY, LIMITED.

ધી ખાનદેશ ધસણીગ એંડ વીવીંગ મીલસ કંપની, લીમીટેડ.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the THIRD ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at its Registered Office, No. 3, Church Lane, Fort, on THURSDAY, the 3rd day of April 1877, at 3 P.M., for the purpose of transacting the following business, viz. :—

1st To pass and confirm the Audited Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December 1876.

2nd. To declare a Dividend.

3rd. To appoint two Directors in the room of those who retire by rotation but are eligible for re-election, and to confirm the appointment of Mr. Cursetjee Manekjee Setna as an additional Director.

4th. To appoint Auditors and to fix their remuneration.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

ધી ખુલજી જેઠાની કુંપ.
*i. e.*, MOOLJEE JAITHA & Co.,
Secretaries and Treasurers.

Bombay, 24th March 1877.

N. B.—The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 26th March to 3rd April 1877, both days inclusive.

PURSUANT to a DECREE of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction made in Suit No. 292 of 1876, (wherein ALBERT BIRMINGHAM MILLER, Official Assignee of the Court for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors at Calcutta and Assignee of the Estate and Effects of WILLIAM DE MONTE SINAES, an Insolvent; is Plaintiff, and FREDERICK JOHN FERGUSSON, the Official Trustee of Bengal, is Defendant) and dated the 5th day of November 1876, the CREDITORS of the late Firm of Messrs. JOSEPH BARRETTO and SONS of the Town of Calcutta, Merchants and Agents, who have executed a certain Trust Deed for the benefit of Creditors, dated the 10th day of March 1877, and expressed to be made between LUIS JOSEPH BARRETTO and EDWARD BRIGHTMAN, surviving Members of the said Firm of Messrs. JOSEPH BARRETTO and SONS of the 1st part, JOHN PALMER, WILLIAM AMSLIE, GEORGE BALLARD, WILLIAM MELVILLE, and ROBERT BROWNE, of the 2nd part, and the several persons, Creditors of the said LUIS JOSEPH BARRETTO and EDWARD BRIGHTMAN who by themselves or their respective Attorneys should execute the said Indenture of the 3rd part and all other persons claiming to be interested in the said Trust Deed are on or before SATURDAY, the 28th day of July 1877 to send to the Office of the Registrar of this Court in its Original Side their Names, Addresses and Descriptions, the full particulars of their claims, a statement of their accounts and the nature of the securities (if any) held by them, or in default thereof they will be peremptorily excluded from the benefit of the said decree.

Every Creditor holding any security may produce or transmit the same to the Registrar with particulars of his claim or shall produce the same before the Judge for the time being exercising Original Jurisdiction in the Court House on SATURDAY, the 11th day of August 1877, at 11 of the clock in the Forenoon, being the time appointed for adjudicating on the claims.

R. BELCHAMBERS, Registrar.

DIGNAM & ROBINSON,
Plaint'f's Attorneys.

The 16th March 1877.

SPORTING AMMUNITION.

CAPS. SHOT.
CARTRIDGES. WADDING.
POWDER. SUNDRIES.

NEW MATERIALS AND APPLIANCES

Of every description,

IMPORTED, ON INTRODUCTION TO HOME USE.
Detailed priced Catalogue on application.

TREACHER & Co., Limited.

REDUCED PRICES.

Finest Virginian Golden Leaf HONEY DEW TOBACCO;

A splendid article, infinitely superior to the Tobaccos commonly sold under its name.

IMPORTED OVERLAND AT PER POUND.

Cash, Rs. 2-8.

TREACHER & Co., Limited.

THE MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

CAPITAL—ONE MILLION STERLING.

The Undersigned have been appointed AGENTS of the Manchester Fire Assurance Company, and are prepared to issue Policies upon Houses, Mills, and other Buildings, Household Furniture, Merchandize, Shipping, &c.

GADDUM & Co., Agents in Bombay.

HOUSEHOLD CLARET.

A SOUND and trustworthy Wine for general table use. Fresh shipment just bottled.

PER DOZEN ..... Rs. 10.]

D. S. KEMP & Co,
SASSOON HOUSE, BOMBAY.

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.—THE PUBLIC are hereby informed that the Police have orders to DESTROY ALL DOGS found within ROTTEN ROW.

FRANK H. SOUTER,
Commissioner of Police.

Police Commissioner's Office, Bombay, 24th March 1877.

THE NEW GREAT EASTERN SPINNING and WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED.—NOTICE is hereby given, that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the abovenamed Company will be CLOSED from the 28th instant to the 13th proximo.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

MUNCHERJEE NOWROJEE BANAJEE,
Secretary.

Bombay, 24th March 1877.

BOMBAY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—An EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Bombay Co-Operative Society will be held at the Society's Rooms on MONDAY, the 2nd April at 5 P.M., for the purpose of confirming the Resolutions passed at the Ordinary and Extraordinary Meetings held on the 27th February.

By Order of the Directors,

STORRAR & BUCHANAN,
Secretaries and Agents.

TO BE LET, a handsomely furnished large Commodious HOUSE, situated at Cumballa Hill, containing 5 Bed-rooms, with Bath-rooms, &c., from 15th April to the end of November 1877. Rent moderate. Apply to JAFFER SULLIMAN & Co.

An Up-storied well furnished HOUSE, situated at Malabar Hill, with Billiard Table and Piano contains 4 Bed-rooms. Rent moderate. To be let from 1st of May till end of November 1877. Apply to JAFFER SULLIMAN & Co.

SHERIFF'S PROCLAMATION.—HIGH COURT.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

SUIT No. 938 OF 1875.

THE LAND MORTGAGE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED, a Joint Stock Company registered under the English Companies Act 1862, and carrying on business in Bombay ..... Plaintiffs.

vs.

ATMARAM MADHOWJEE, MORESHWAR SUCCARAM and CRUSINAROW SUCCARAM, all of Bombay, Hindoo Inhabitants, now residing at Breach Candy Road, Bombay ..... Defendants.

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND NOTIFIED, in supersession of the Undersigned's Proclamation, dated the 22nd inst., that on SATURDAY, the 28th day of April 1877, at half-past two o'clock in the Afternoon (under and by virtue of a Decretal Order made by the Honorable Mr. JUSTICE PINHEY, dated the 3rd day of August 1876, in the above suit) will be put up FOR SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION, on the premises, the undermentioned IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY towards satisfaction of the sum of RUPEES THREE LACS NINETY THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX and the costs of this suit when taxed. The said property is described as follows :—

ALL that piece or parcel of land containing by admeasurement Twenty Thousand Four Hundred and Twelve square yards or thereabouts, with two Messuages, Dwelling Houses and Outhouses, then in course of construction, situate at Breach Candy, in the Sub-District of Bhoo'eshwar, in the Island of Bombay, and bounded as follows, that is to say :—On or towards the North partly by the property of Cowasjee Hormusjee and partly by the property known as the property of the late Raghoonath Madowjee, and on towards the South and the East respectively by the property of Cowasjee Dadaboy Sawyer, and on or towards the West by the public roads, and which are registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 201.

The sale will extend only to the Right, Title and Interest of the Defendant Atmaram Madhowjee, as Heir and Executor of the late Madoba Hurichund, in the above specified property.

25 per cent. Deposit money to be paid at the time of sale.

For further information apply at the Office of the Sheriff of Bombay.

CURSETJEE FURDOONJEE,
Sheriff of Bombay.

Bombay, Sheriff's Office, 24th March 1877.

MESSRS. LYNCH & TOBIN,
Plaintiff's Attorneys.

SHERIFF'S PROCLAMATION.—HIGH COURT

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

SUIT No. 497 OF 1875.

THE LAND MORTGAGE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED, a Joint Stock Company registered under the English Companies' Act of 1862, and carrying on business in Bombay ..... Plaintiffs.

vs.

RAMCHUNDER GOVIND DATAR, Hindoo inhabitant, residing in Parnel, in the Zillah of Tanna, CRISNAJEE RAMCHUNDER, BHAIKER RAMCHUNDER, PRABHAKUR RAMCHUNDER and KUMLAKUR RAMCHUNDER, the infant sons of the abovenamed RAMCHUNDER GOVIND DATAR by their guardian JAGGOONATH KRUSHNA PARADKAR, Hindoo inhabitant of Koperkolie, in the Talooka of Panwell, Tanna District ..... Defendants.

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND NOTIFIED that on SATURDAY, the 28th day of April 1877, at 12 o'clock Noon (under and by virtue of a Decretal Order made by the Honorable Mr. JUSTICE BAYLY, dated the 14th day of July 1876, in the above suit) will be put FOR SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION at the Sheriff's Office, the undermentioned IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY towards satisfaction of the sum of RUPEES TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and NINE and ANNAS TWELVE, for debt and interest, and the cost of this Suit when taxed, and further simple interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum upon the amount of the said judgment, from the date of the said Decree until payment. The said premises are described as follows :—

ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of land containing by admeasurement One Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty-five acres and thirteen gunthas or thereabouts, situate in the boundaries of the villages of DEMAH DIAD, VANGENE, KANDUP, KAROALIE and SHIROWLEE in the Talooka of PANWELL and Zilla of TANNA.

The sale will extend to the Right, Title and Interest of the Defendant, Ramchunder Govind Datar, only in the above specified properties. 25 per cent Deposit money to be paid at the time of sale.

For further information apply at the Office of the Sheriff of Bombay.

CURSETJEE FURDOONJEE,
Sheriff of Bombay.

Bombay Sheriff's Office, 24th March 1877.

PROSPECTUS OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.

REGISTERED UNDER ACT X. OF 1866.

HEAD OFFICE : LAHORE.

CAPITAL—Rs. 5,00,000.

With power to increase, to be raised in 500 Shares of Rs. 1,000 each, payable as follows :—

Rs. 250 on application.
Rs. 250 on allotment.

(Further Calls will be made at such times as the Directors may decide.)

Six per cent. per annum will be charged on all over-due Calls.

CHAIRMAN.

G. H. Coates, Esq., Merchant, Ferozepore.

DIRECTORS.

Colonel A. Cory, Lahore.
G. E. Coates, Esq., Ferozepore.
D. P. Masson, Esq., Manager Punjab Bank Limited, Lahore.
Rai Mela Ram.
Lalla Chota Lall.

MANAGER.

Thomas Russell, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.

Andrew Dalgliesh, Esq.

STANDING COUNSEL.

C. H. Spitta, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Lahore.

SECRETARY AND ACCOUNTANT.

W. D. Henry, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Punjab Bank Limited.—Rawal Pindi, Lahore, Mooltan and Murree.

OUTLINE OF PROSPECTUS.

I.—The Company is formed with the object of taking over and developing the business of a private partnership, which, under the name of the Central Asian Trading Company, has during the last three years been engaged in trade with Eastern Turkistan, Ladak and Kashmir.

II.—The Good-Will, Trade Mark, Bond of Agreement with the Kashmir authorities, and other privileges of the old Company, will be taken over by the new Company at a valuation of 10 per cent premium upon the paid up Capital of the venture—to Rs. 17,600, in fully paid up Shares of the new Company, and by so doing the new Company will in no way be concerned with the Assets or Liabilities of the old Company.

III.—The results of the old Company's trading transactions with Yarkund afford good grounds for believing a highly profitable trade can be carried on with the Central Asian, Punjab, Kashmir, and Ladak markets.

IV.—Several members of the old Company join the new Company, and they further permit their Manager, and Assistant Manager, in the old Company to take service with the new Company.

V.—Only two-thirds of the entire Company's stated capital will be issued at present in shares, and the Board reserve the right to issue further shares until such time as the development of the Company's working makes it advisable to do so.

VI.—The business of the Company will also include trading with any other city in India, and permit of its produce being sent into the American, Chinese, Australian, Continental and English markets, or any other market where a profitable return is obtainable.

VII.—The Head Office of the Company will be at Lahore (with Warehouses at Srinagar and Leh), where further information regarding the trade and prospects of the Company may be obtained on application to the Manager, Mr. T Russell.

VIII.—Applications for shares will be received by the Managers of the Punjab Bank, Limited, at their various offices, as well as by the Manager of the Company at his office in Lahore up to the 30th of April.

THOMAS RUSSELL, Manager,
Central Asian Trading Company, Limited.

Lahore, the February 1877.

To

The MANAGER.

Dear Sir,

I beg to enclose the sum of Rs. ..... as the application Shares in the Central Asian Trading Company, "Limited," and bind myself to accept the number of Shares now applied for, or any less number that may be allotted to me, in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company.

Yours faithfully,

157 .

DR. F. B. SEERVAI,
*SURGEON DENTIST,*
No. 2 HORNBY ROW,
Opposite the New General Post Office.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE, a set of SECOND-HAND ENGLISH DOUBLE HARNESS, in good order. For Price, &c., apply at this Office.

AMERICAN CORNED BEEF in 4 lb. Tins and other Ullmanstores always in stock. W. J. ESSAI, Forbes Street.

WANTED, a STEWARDESS for Steamer RINALDO, sailing for Liverpool, 5th April. KILLICK, NIXON & Co., Agents.

TO LET, a PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO, well situated at a very moderate rental. Address "R. M."

TO LET, good airy furnished QUARTERS with partial or entire Board in the neighbourhood of Breach Candy. Address "B. G.," *Bombay Gazette.*

WANTED, a FURNISHED BUNGALOW on MALABAR or CUMBALLA HILL, for 6 months from the end of April. Rent about Rs. 150 a month. Apply to "D. E. G." care of this paper.

## REQUISITES FOR TRAVELLERS BY LAND OR SEA.

OVERLAND TRUNKS.
Rs. 22-8 each.

PORTMANTEAUX.
Of convenient shapes.

COURIER AND HAND BAGS.
Tanned Canvas and Leather.

RUGS.
Rug and Bed Straps.

AIR PILLOWS AND CUSHIONS.
Of superior manufacture, from Rs. 5 to 15.

DECK AND CAMP CHAIRS.
Folding—light and strong, from Rs. 7 to 15.

BATHS.
Best Tin, strong, with and without covers, from Rs. 10 to 50.
Indian Rubber ditto, quite flat, and when inflated serve as a comfortable Bath, 33 inches in diameter and 8 inches deep, Rs. 25.

LAMPS AND LANTERNS,
of the most useful patterns made specially for India.

FIELD AND MARINE GLASSES.
Achromatic in sling Cases, from Rs. 25 to 150.

TIFFIN BASKETS,
Suitable for Indian use, empty or conveniently fitted from Rs. 11 to Rs. 50 each.

POCKET CANTEENS,
from Rs. 30 to 50.

DRAM FLASKS. Various Patterns and sizes, Rs. 1-8 to 15. DRINKING CUPS. Horn, Glass or Metal, As. 12 to Rs. 3-8. Cockscrews, Tin. Openers, Knives and Forks,

POCKET AND TRAVELLING FILTERS,
from Rs. 3 to 30.

PRESERVED PROVISIONS,
Soups, Fish, Meats, Pies, Sausages, Biscuits, &c., &c.

CLARETS, BRANDIES, HOCKS, CHAMPAGNES, Beers, Scouts, &c.

SODA AND OTHER AERATED WATERS.
Pure and Sparkling.

INFANTS' PREPARED FOODS, Fresh importations.

CHOCOLATE, COCOA, TEA, COFFEE AND MILK,
in a variety of forms,

CIGARS AND CHEROOTS, Manillas, Trichinopoly and Coconads, of first qualities, specially selected.

BEST BRIAR PIPES,
from Rs. 1 to 5.

MEERSCHAUM PIPES,
Of handsome shapes.

MEDICINE CHESTS,
in solid Leather, Oak, or Mahogany fitted with Medicines according to special requirements, from Rs. 25 to 100.

EAU DE COLOGNE AND VINEGAR.
Marine and Toilet Soaps, Soap Case.

SPONGES,
and Sponge Bags.

DRESSING BAGS AND CASES,
from Rs. 12 to 300.

STATIONERY.
Note Paper and Envelopes, specially suited for Overland or Inland Correspondence.

WRITING AND TOURIST CASES
in a variety of portable and useful shapes.

PURSES AND POCKET BOOKS.
of the most convenient and secure forms.

PLAYING CARDS,
and Portable Games.

## TREACHER & COMPANY, LIMITED, BOMBAY, BYCULLA AND POONA.

## FIRTH'S INDIAN PHOTOGRAPHS.

SEASON 1875-76

MESSRS. THACKER, VINING & Co. desire to draw especial attention to the above Series of Photographs, which has now been completed by the addition of some 200 Views taken by an Artist, who passed the Season of 1874-75 in India for that special purpose.

The additions made include Views of the New Buildings in Bombay, a Series of Matheran Scenery, Views at Bassein, Poona, Nassick, and at all places of interest in this Presidency, as well as a large number of Views in Calcutta, Madras, &c., &c.

The entire Series now consists of over 500 Photographs, size 8 inches by 6¼, the subjects being most artistically chosen and photographed, and exquisitely printed; they are certainly equal, if not superior, to any that have yet been produced, whilst they are sold at the remarkably cheap rate of Rs. 15 per Dozen.

*Sample Albums are always on view.*

THACKER, VINING & COMPANY.

## DHUNJEEBHOY RUSTOMJEE AND COMPANY.

39, MEADOW STREET, BOMBAY.

*All quotations subject to the fluctuations of the Market.*

PALE ALE AND STOUT.

| | Per Doz. Rs. | a. |
|---|---|---|
| Bass' Beer, in Quarts, by Stone | 5-8 to | 3 12 |
| „ „ Pints | 3-0 to | 3 12 |
| Our Own, in Quarts | | 5 0 |
| „ Pints | | 3 0 |
| Guinness's Stout, in Quarts | 5-8 to | 5 12 |
| „ Pints | 3-8 to | 3 12 |

SHERRY WINE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pale or Golden | 16 | 0 |
| „ Fine | 20 | 0 |
| „ Very Fine | 24 | 0 |
| Amitlado | 24 | 0 |
| De Pasto | 24 | 0 |

CLARET.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ordinary | 90 | 0 |
| Do. in pints | 6 | 0 |
| Ejinet | 18 | 0 |
| After Dinner | 18 | 0 |
| Do. | 7 | 0 |
| Chateau in Rouge, in Quarts | 32 | 0 |
| Chateau Lafitte | 32 | 0 |

CHAMPAGNE AND HOCK.

| | Per Doz. Rs. | a. |
|---|---|---|
| F. Giesler & Co., Quarts | 46 | 0 |
| „ „ Pints | 25 | 0 |
| De St. Marceaux, Quarts | 48 | 0 |
| „ Pints | 30 | 0 |
| Jules Mumm & Co., Quarts | 40 | 0 |
| „ Pints | 21 | 0 |
| Best Dry, in Quarts | 30 | 0 |
| „ Pints | 16 | 0 |
| Hock "Still," very fine | 18, 23, 22 and | 24 0 |
| „ in Pints | Rs. 12 and | 14 0 |

BRANDY.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Exshaw | Rs. 21 and | 36 0 |
| Hennessy and Co | Rs. 26½, 30 and | 33 0 |
| Planat and Co | | 30 0 |
| J. Denis Mounie and Co | | 26 0 |
| Jules Robin and Co | | 22 0 |
| J. and E. Martel | | 27 0 |
| Penet Castillion & Co | | 22 0 |
| C. Dennehy | Rs. 21, 23 and | 25 0 |
| Lower qualities from | | 15 0 |
| Cherry Brandy | Rs. 12 and | 15 0 |

SPIRITS AND LIQUEURS.

| | Per Doz. Rs. | a. |
|---|---|---|
| Whiskey, Kenahan's, L.L. | 22 | 0 |
| Whiskey, by Crabbie | 18 | 0 |
| Jamaica Rum do. | 20 | 0 |
| Old Tom, by S. Boord | 16 | 0 |
| Do. Booth & Sons | 17 | 0 |
| Do. Vaughan Jones | 17 | 0 |
| Do. C. Gordon and Co | 17 | 0 |
| Gin Square bottles | 23 | 0 |
| Orange Bitters | 17 | 0 |
| Spirit of Wine | 15 | 0 |
| Brandy Bitters | 17 | 0 |
| Vermouth | 14 | 0 |
| Ginger Wine, by Crabbie & Gordon | 15 | 0 |
| Curacao, Quarts | Rs. 30 and | 36 0 |
| Do Pints | Rs. 20 and | 24 0 |
| Noyeau, Vanille, Anisette and Rose | Rs. 18 and | 24 0 |

PORT WINE.

| | |
|---|---|
| One Grape | 18 0 |
| Old Draught | 18 0 |
| Old Bottled Invalid's Wine | 24 0 |

OILMAN'S STORES by Crosse and Blackwell and others.

Also, CUTLER, PALMER'S AND C. BOUNVIALLE'S WINES at their Prices.

## J. NEUBERG.

## MACHINE CUT TOBACCOS.

NEUBERG'S "GOLDEN BLOCK" MIXTURE.

Pronounced by Connoisseurs to be the most perfect Mixture for tropical consumption, MANUFACTURED DAILY, thus ensuring that freshness and delicacy of Aroma, (a smoker's special charm), so difficult to secure in India.

*Per 1 lb. Tin—Rs. 3-4 | Per ½ lb. Tin—Rs. 1-12.*

NEUBERG'S "GOLDEN LEAF BIRDS EYE."

DELICIOUSLY FRAGRANT.

*Rs. 1 per ¼ lb. packet.*

FINEST LATAKIA.

RICH FULL BOUQUET.

Put up in ½ and ¼ lb. packets.

*Rs. 4 per lb.*

AMERICAN TOBACCOS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Golden Block, Finest Virginia | Rs. 3 | 0 per lb. |
| Honey Dew, Cream of the Crop | „ 2 | 8 „ |
| Bright Cavendish | „ 2 | 0 „ |

FOR GENERAL PRICE LIST APPLY TO

J. NEUBERG,
MEADOW STREET, BOMBAY.

## BONA FIDE CLEARANCE SALE.

M. BRESLAUER & Co. have decided SELLING the whole of their STOCK IN TRADE at original cost prices.

The Stock consists of Black and Coloured Silks, Merinos, Muslins, Drills, Longcloths, Flannels, Poplins, and various other kinds of Dress Materials.

Also Fancy Goods, such as Purses, Cigar Cases, Meerschaum and Briarwood Pipes, Pictures, Looking-glasses, Perfumery, Toys, &c., &c., &c.

The Stock must be cleared out by the 15th of April.

No reasonable offers will be refused.

M. BRESLAUER & CO.

## STARTLING NEWS.

THE INSTALMENT SYSTEM IS NOW INTRODUCED IN THE BOMBAY O

# COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

SATURDAY EVENING, 24TH MARCH 1877.

THE failure of the negotiations between England and Russia do not appear to be regarded as seriously prejudicing the position. French Rentes have declined from 108 to 107⅞ but Consols remain at 96⅞.

Cotton in Liverpool yesterday was reported quiet, sales 8,000 bales, and to-day opened with a better feeling but closed unchanged, the sales only reaching 6,000 bales. Spot prices as quoted by Reuter are unaltered since Thursday's decline, but from private sources we learn arrivals are lower, Good Omra via Cape being offered at 5¾d. per lb. There is no change in the position from what we have called attention to of late. The receipts at the American ports are now 16,000 bales behind last year and this deficiency seems likely to be considerably increased week by week, but stocks in Liverpool are so heavy and trade prospects in Manchester so bad, what with the decline in the Eastern Exchanges and political complications on the Continent, that there is little room for any immediate improvement.

To-day's telegrams from New York still quote ready Mid. Uplands at 11¼ cents, and June shipment at 11¼ cents. per lb. The American crop figures to date show the following comparisons :—

| | 1877. | 1876. | 1875. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Week's Receipts | 33,000 | 64,000 | 49 000 |
| ,, Exports to U. K. | 43,000 | 53,000 | 33 000 |
| ,, ,, to Continent. | 21,000 | 36,000 | 25,000 |
| Total Receipts Since 1st Sept. | 3,685,000 | 3,696,000 | 3,144,000 |
| ,, Exports to U. K. ,, | 1,691,000 | 1,498,000 | 1,378,300 |
| ,, ,, to Continent ,, | 760,000 | 995,000 | 633,000 |
| ,, Stock at the Ports ..... | 750,000 | 662,000 | 632,000 |
| | This week. | Last week. | |
| Saturday's Receipts. ..... | 5,000 | 4,000 | 10,000 6,000 |

The visible supply of Cotton for all Europe on the 23rd instant compares with the corresponding date on the two previous years as follows :—

| | 1877. | 1876. | 1875. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total supply of all kinds | 2,940,000 | 2,866,463 | 2,843,320 |
| ,, ,, ,, Surats ... | 323,000 | 403,290 | 646,770 |
| For the U. K. only the figures are :— | | | |
| Stock in Liverpool..... | 1,670,000 | 777,109 | 831,860 |
| Do. London..... | 56,000 | 61,580 | 166,440 |
| American Afloat..... | 210,000 | 331,000 | 260,000 |
| E. Indian ,, ..... | 128,000 | 111,000 | 208,000 |
| | 1,434,000 | 1,280,689 | 1,406 260 |
| Price of Mid. Orleans ... | 6 7-16d. | 6 13-16d. | 8 1 16d. |
| ,, Fair Dhollera... | 5¼d. | 4¾d. | 5¼d. |
| Difference ..... | 1 5-16d. | 2 3-16d. | 2 13-16d |

The Manchester Piece Goods Market yesterday was dull but prices were quoted the same as on Tuesday last, with the exception of 8⅛lb. Grey Shirtings which are 1¼d. per piece lower.

The London General Produce Markets were unchanged in every respect.

Bar Silver was quoted by Reuter yesterday at 53¾d. per oz., but we are informed that private advices quoted 53¼d., no buyers. Reuter, however, repeats the 53¾d. again to-day, which looks as if the market was somewhat firmer. That there can be no real strength in the position of the Metal is, however, very evident from the fact that, notwithstanding about a million sterling has been bought in London for India during the past month, prices have declined about 2¼d. per oz. What may be expected when the demand for this side ceases it is difficult to say, but a decline in or before the monsoon to something considerably below present rates seems inevitable.

STERLING EXCHANGE, owing to stronger advices from Calcutta, and an increase in the amount of bills offering here has undergone a decided reaction, rates having advance ½ per cent. in Bank and 1 per cent. in Private Paper. The market seems firm at the rise, with all but a certainity of a heavy drop towards the end of the season ; any important recovery now could only be temporary. We quote—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bank Bills, on demand ..... | ls. 8 9-16d. per Rupee | |
| Do. 6 months' sight ... | ls. 8¾d. | ,, |
| Credits, 3 ,, ..... | ls. 8¾d. | ,, |
| Documents, 3 ,, ..... | ls. 8 15-16d. | ,, |

On Calcutta the demand rate has recovered to par ; 60 days' sight bills are still quoted nominally at 1½ per cent. discount.

GOVERNMENT PAPER continues firm with a hardening tendency. We quote:—Fours, Rs.97½ to ⅝ ; Fours-and-a-half, Rs. 97¾ ; Fives-and-a-half, Rs. 101¼.

The SHARE MARKET is steady with no very important movements. Bank of Bombays are ¼ per cent easier. Land Companies are unchanged as also are Press Companies, except for a decline of Rs. 5 in Mofussil Company, Spinning and Weaving Companies are generally unaltered, but we quote an advance of Rs. 5 in Alliance, Colaba, Fleming and Khutao Mucoonjee.

COTTON has been in somewhat better request to-day notwithstanding the drop in Exchange, and a moderate business has been done at yesterday's prices chiefly in Ginned Broach and Dholleras. Omras are out of request and somewhat difficult of sale. The receipts yesterday were 8,564 bales. We quote :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Good Ginned Broach, Ready..... | Rs. 198 per Candy f. r. | | |
| Good Omra | ,, ..... | 188 | ,, ,, |
| F. G. F. do. | ,, ..... | 186 | ,, ,, |
| G. F. do. | ,, ..... | 185 | ,, ,, |
| Good Dhollera | April ..... | 192 | ,, ,, |
| F. G. F. do. | ,, ..... | 189 | ,, ,, |
| G. F. do. | ,, ..... | 187 | ,, ,, |

FREIGHTS continue quiet and unaltered. By steamer for Liverpool the current rate is still £2-2-6 for Cotton and £1-17-6 for Wheat. By sail we quote £2-1-3 per ton, with a fair enquiry.

PIECE GOODS to-day have been in somewhat better request and sellers have been holding for and in some cases succeeded in obtaining an advance of anna 1 per piece. Supplies, however, are too large to admit of any important rise.

## BOMBAY BILL AND STOCK LIST.

### BANKS.

| Banks | No. of Shares. | Nomi. Value p. sh. | Paid up. | Last Dividend. | Cash. Rates per Share. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Rs. | Rs. | p. a. | |
| Agra Bank ..... | 100,000 | 100 | all | 8 dc. | 112 |
| Bank of Bengal ..... | 40,000 | 500 | all | 6 dc. | 6-0 xd. |
| Bank of Bombay ..... | 20,000 | 500 | all | 10 dc. | 685 |
| Bank of Madras..... | 10,000 | 500 | all | 8 dc. | 635 |
| Chartered Mercantile Bank of L. L. & China. | 30,000 | 250 | all | 8 dc. | 350 |
| Hong. & Shanghai Bank. | 40,000 | 125 | all | 8 dc. | 366 |
| Chartered Bank of India and China ..... | 40,000 | 200 | all | 5 dc. | 200 |
| National Bank of India. | 37,320 | 250 | 125 | 6 dc. | 112 |
| Oriental Bank..... | 60,000 | 250 | all | 10 dc. | 495 |

### RAILWAY COMPANIES.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G. I. P. Railway Consolidated Stock..... | .. | £20 | 21 8 3 | 5 p. c. | 277 |
| Do. New £20 Shares..... | .. | £20 | 13 0 14 | do. | 26 |
| Ditto ..... | .. | £20 | 6 5 7 | do. | 72 |
| Ditto ..... | .. | £20 | 21 13 1 | do. | 32 |
| B. B. and C. I. Ry. Co. | .. | £100 | 1,000 | do. | 1,100 |
| Do. New Shares. ... | .. | £18 | 10 0 12 | do. | 210 |

### LAND COMPANIES.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Colaba Land Co. (New). | 3,948 | 2,000 | all | 25 | 945 |
| Frere Land and Pier Co. Limited..... | 7,500 | 150 | all | .. | 110 |
| Mazagon Land and Port Canning Land Company, Limited..... | 1,750 | 2,000 | 1,000 | 20 p. s. | 675 |
| | 6,000 | 1,400 | all | 10 do. | 215 xd. |

### SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alexandra S. and W. Co. | 750 | 1,250 | all | 50 p.s* | 1,079 |
| Alfred Mills Co..... | 250 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 99 p.s. | 1,160 |
| Alliance Spinning ..... | 500 | 2,500 | all | 200 | 2,460 |
| Anglo-Indian S. and W. Company ..... | 30,000 | 100 | 80 | .. | 68 |
| Bhowmuggur M. and P. Company ..... | 300 | 2,000 | | 100 p.s. | 1,660 |
| Bombay United..... | 900 | 1,000 | all | 60 p.s* | 1,142 xd |
| Bombay Hemp and Jute Mill Company... | 2,000 | 500 | all | .. | 285 |
| Broach Mills ..... | 1,800 | 100 | all | 10 p.s* | 135½ |
| Colaba S. and W. Co. .. | 900 | 1,000 | all | 40 p.s. | 980 |
| Coorla S. and W. Co. .. | 1,000 | 1,000 | all | .. | 990 |
| Central India S. and W. Company ..... | 2,500 | 500 | 450 | .. | 650 |
| Dharumsey Spinning .. | 3,000 | 2,000 | all | 50 p.s* | 1,083 |
| Fleming S. and W. Co.. | 1,500 | 1,250 | all | 50 p.s* | 1,699 |
| Great Eastern ..... | 1,000 | 1,000 | all | 60 p.s* | 1,100 |
| Hindustan S. & W. Co.. | 875 | 1,000 | all | 40 p.s. | 1,145 |
| Hydrabad S. and W. Co. | 700 | 1,000 | 1,000 | .. | 825 |
| Jewraj Balloo Mills .... | 750 | 1,000 | all | 45 p.s* | 1,139 |
| Khandesh Spinning ... | 750 | 1,000 | all | 80 p.s* | 1,210 |
| K. Muconjee S. & W. Co. | 1,000 | 1,000 | all | .. | 1005 |
| Madras Spinning ..... | 800 | 1,250 | all | Nil | [1,080 |
| Madras U. Spinning ... | 425 | 1,000 | all | 80 p.s* | 1,225 xd. |
| Manchester & Bombay. S. and W. Co. ..... | 30,000 | 50 | 45 | .. | 45 |
| Mandvie S. and W. Co.. | 1,200 | 500 | all | .. | 420 |
| Manockjee Petit's..... | 2,500 | 1,000 | all | 70 p.s* | 1,425 |
| Morarjee Spinning ..... | 1,043 | 1,000 | all | 80 p.s* | 1,400 |
| Managon S. and W. Co.. | 2,000 | 5,000 | .. | .. | 325 |
| National S. and W. Co. of India..... | 950 | 1,000 | all | .. | 945 |
| Nerlad S. and W. Co.... | 400 | 1,000 | all | .. | 945 |
| Nicol Press Manufacturing Co., Ld..... | 600 | 2,000 | all | .. | 950 |
| Nursey S. and W. Co.... | 2,500 | 400 | all | .. | 387½ |
| Oriental ..... | 1,000 | 625 | all | 50 p.s* | 870 |
| Prince of Wales Spinning. | 600 | 1,000 | all | .. | 1,103 |
| Bassoon S. & W. Co..... | 1,500 | 1,000 | all | .. | 1,000 |
| Sonderdas Spinning .. | 650 | 1,000 | all | 50 p.s. | 919 |
| Do do. 2 Shares. | 800 | 1,000 | 500 | 125 p.s. | 200 |
| Sholapore S. and W. Co. | 500 | 1,000 | all | .. | 940 |
| Victoria Mills ..... | 550 | 1,000 | all | .. | 700 |

*Per Share for the half-year.

## BANK OF BENGAL.

THE following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bengal for the week ending 20th March compared with that for 13th March :—

| LIABILITIES. | 13th March. Rs. A. P. | 20th March. Rs. A. P. |
|---|---|---|
| Capital ..... | 2,00,00,000 0 0 | 2,00,00,000 0 0 |
| Reserve Fund ..... | 16,71,319 9 6 | 18,11,119 2 8 |
| Treasury Balance ..... | 1,71,90,999 14 8 | 1,83,85,341 2 4 |
| Other Deposits ..... | 1,98,86,404 3 4 | 2,09,14,763 9 2 |
| Bank Post Bills, &c..... | 3,71,711 11 11 | 2,94,514 6 3 |
| Sundries ..... | 7,52,469 14 0 | 8,04,464 13 3 |
| Rs. | 5,98,11,735 14 4 | 6,20,70,844 1 11 |
| ASSETS. | Rs. A. P. | Rs. A. P. |
| Government Securities..... | 98,56,114 13 9 | 97,49,269 9 6 |
| Loans on Govt. Securities. | 50 58 861 5 4 | 49 10 804 5 4 |
| Credits on ditto ... | 43,84,7 9 8 3 | 46 18,221 1 4 |
| Bills Discounted..... | 1,76,47,529 3 10 | 1,97,24,911 4 6 |
| Balances with other Banks | 87,381 5 10 | 3 21,280 15 7 |
| Bullion ..... | 8,49,154 3 4 | 7 18,719 6 10 |
| Deno Stock ..... | 10,39 164 3 6 | 10,32,841 13 6 |
| Stamps ..... | 10 890 7 11 | 10,780 13 0 |
| Sundries ..... | 2,64 524 13 1 | 2,35,005 12 1 |
| Cash at Head Office ..... | 94,46,028 3 9 | 93,69,949 1 8 |
| Do. at Branches ..... | 1,14,74,837 10 3 | 1,14,22,463 5 10 |
| Rs. | 5,98,11,735 14 4 | 6,20,70,844 1 11 |

## SHIPPING INTELIGENCE.

THE s. s. GANGES, 1,247 tons, Captain J. Walsh, sailed on the 24th instant for Kurrachee in ballast.

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S S. s. POLLUCE, Captain G. Rugnin, from Trieste, left Aden for Lombay on the 25th instant.

THE SHIP VICTORIA CROSS, 1,262 tons, Captain O. R. Young, arrived in harbour on the 23rd instant from Cardiff (November 14 h), with a cargo of 1,675 tons coals. The vessel is consigned to Messrs Ritchie, Steuart and Co.

THE SHIP CASTLEMAINE, 1,361 tons, Captain R. Williams, arrived in harbour on the 25rd instant from Calcutta (February 11th), with the following cargo :—20,428 bags rice, 3,189 bales gunnies, 518 bags sugar, 2 boxes attar, 250 bags grain, 40 boxes tea, 100 bales twine, and one package tobacco. The vessel is consigned to the Captain.

THE HALL LINE S. S. CHILDWALL HALL, Captain F. Tregarthen, arrived in harbour yesterday from Liverpool (27th February), with a general cargo and the following passengers :—Mr. and Mrs. Barnes and two children, Mr. C. F. S. Lester, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Ridgeway, Col. Dawson, Miss Thomson, Miss Hains and Mr. Foster.

THE s. s. NAPIER, 1,477 tons, Captain J. D. Eaton, which arrived in harbour on the 23rd instant from Calcutta (March 14th), brought the following cargo :—697 packages twine, 416 packages paper, 2,921 bags sugar, 17,548 bags rice, 1 case cigars, 835 bales jute 2 bundles E teeth, 37 packages goods, 28 packages piece goods, 2,303 packages gunnies, 5 cases attar, 51 packages grain, 832 packages betelnuts, and 81 packages medicine. The vessel is consigned to Messrs. James, Mackintosh and Co.

THE B. I. S. N. Co.'s s. s. CALCUTTA, 548 tons, Captain T. P. Naller, sailed on the 24th instant for Coast and Calcutta, with a general cargo and the following passengers :—For Bypore.—Brigr. Genl. Walker and servant, and Mr. J. A. Jeffreys. For Mangalore.—Mrs. Nowrojee Bazunjee and two children, and Mr. Cherington and servant. For Vingorla.—Mr. and Mrs. Maddington and three servants. For Carwar.—Mr. Soons and four servants. For Cannonore.—Asst. Apoth. Korl and Mr. S. J. Meyn. For different ports.—Eighteen deck passengers.

### ARRIVALS.

| Mar. | Vessels. | Commanders. | From. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 23 | Victoria Cross..... | Young ..... | Cardiff, Nov 14. |
| | Castlemaine..... | Williams ..... | Calcutta, Feb 11. |
| 24 | Eleano ..... | Brown ..... | Liverpool, Nov 9. |
| 25 | Oorun (s) ..... | Baker ..... | Mandvie, Mar 23. |
| | Childwall Hall (s)... | Tregarth n | Liverpool, Feb 27. |

### DEPARTURES.

| Mar. | Vessels. | Commanders. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 24 | Pearl(s)..... | McGregor..... | Coast and Cut-h. |
| | Prince Regent ..... | Gr ham ..... | Havre. |
| | Gangetic ..... | Walsh ..... | Kurrachee. |
| | Calcutta (s) ..... | Nailor ..... | Coast and Calcutta. |

The following vessels were entered out for loading on Saturday last :—

Steamer Vingola, to K Coast and Kurrachee.
Ship Seringapatam, to Falmouth.
Ship Tythoun, to Liverpool.
Ship Fiudlin, to Bremerhaven.

### CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

| Mar. | | |
|---|---|---|
| 20 | Henry Miller ..... | Robson ..... |
| | Palais Godin ..... | M j r ..... Bourbon, Dec 14. |
| 21 | Commillah (s) ..... | Henderson ..Kyuk Phyoo, Mar 17. |
| | Country of Peebles. | Fordyce..... Bombay, Feb 7. |
| | Bhaygowrie ..... | Sam Dara.... Madras, Mar 13. |
| | Kiffy ..... | Wm Abbott.... ..... |

DEPARTURES.

| Mar. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | India(s)..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Mahratta(s)..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Amaryllis (s) ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Vixe (s) ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Childers ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | G ase pore ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Clan Ferguson ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 21 | Ne son (s)..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Oorjia (s)..... | ..... | ..... |

PASSENGERS.

Per Henry Miller—1 native woman.
Per Palais Gallien—Captain C H Smith, Mutlah Floating Light Vessel.
Per Commillah—Mrs Helps, Mr J W Russell, Mr J Templeton, Mr Edouard, Mr Fontenay, Baboo R Nath, Mr Fink.

### DAILY EXPORTS.—MARCH 24.

FOR LIVERPOOL

County of Caithness—500 cwts myrabollams, Jaitha Pursotum ; 500 bales cotton, Ralli Brothers ; 50 bales cotton, Peel, Cassels and Co.

Oriflamme—2½ bales cotton, J C Bushby and Co ; 119 bales cotton, Manockchund Nourbhund ; 400 bales cotton, Nusserwanjee Manockjee ; 125 bales cotton, Goculdass Cullianjee ; 151 bales cotton, Vurdhman Tokersee ; 500 bales cotton, Graphell, Mitchell and Co.

Albergrove—4 sacks myrabollams, Ralli Brothers.

Khersonee—2 bales cotton, Cursondass Nensee ; 125 cwts coir yarn, Nunjee Khutsow ; 200 bales cotton, Volkart Brothers ; 300 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co ; 207 bales cotton, Runchodass Motichund.

Blenheim s—55 bales wool, Ebram Noordin and Co ; 60 bales cotton, Nurse Mejee ; 100 bales cotton, Edwards and Co ; 50 bales cotton, Kewal Tr candass ; 150 bales cotton, Ralli Brothers ; 10 bales cotton, Nusserwanjee Manockjee and Co ; 400 bales cotton, Lyon and Co ; 100 bales cotton, Runchordass Bhugwandass

Caradoc s—82 bales cotton, Ebram Noordin and Co ; 300 bales cotton, Killick, Nixon and Co ; 93 bales cotton, Dewjee Hojraz and Co ; 11 bales cotton, Kwart, Latham and Co ; 27 bales cotton, Sewchund Lilladhur.

Nellie Martin s—20 bales wool, Ramjee Roychund ; 28 bales wool, Pursotum Tersey ; 25 bales wool, Dewjee Govindjee ; 22 bales wool, Pragjee Doolseedass ; 66 bales cotton, Ramjee Cassbinjee ; 21 bales cotton, Ebram Noordin and Co ; 51 bales cotton, Dwarkadass Damodar ; 50 bales cotton, Ockerdi Khetsee ; 52 bales cotton, Runchordass Bhugwandass ; 64 bales cotton, Purseanund Bhawan.

Results s—110 bales cotton, Gordhandass Runchodass ; 800 bales cotton, Killick, Nixon and Co ; 55 bales cotton and 55 bales hemp, Khimjee Luckmedass and Co ; 109 bales cotton, Khooshali Hu ridass and Co.

Tuscany s—375 cwts myrabollams, W and A Graham and Co ; 374 cwts wheat and 325 bales cotton, Killick, Nixon and Co ; 40 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co ; 200 bales cotton, Peel, Cassels and Co ; 730 cwts wheat, Varsey bhoy Vally.

Mercia s—109 bales hemp, Nuthoo Soondurjee.

FOR LONDON.

Aberman—16,500 cwts linseed, Wallace and Co.

Mongolia s—1 bundle carpet, Sir Charles Forbes and Co ; 1 bale carpets, Choonilal Mummohundass ; 7 cases fishmaw, Peerbhoy Assur ; 3 boxes vermicilion, Hajee Mahomed Hajee Esmail ; 4 cases meerschaum, Curreembhoy Nanjee ; 87 cases elfenbaum, Cassum Canjee ; 10 bales skins, Mahomedbhoy Rusulbhoy ; 1002 bags dry ginger, Jethia Pursotum ; 34 bales china, Sir Charles Forbes and Co ; 46 boxes silver coins, The C N B of I L and China ; 2 bales hides, Allamukhibhoy Suzan ; 6 bales hides, P Eduljee ; 4 bales hides, Mahomedbhoy Corjee ; 15 bales hides and 10 bales skins, Chand Mahomedally and Co.

Burmese s—125 cwts coir yarn, Veerchund Hemraj ; 195 cwts wool, Wooreebhoy Chubbhoy.

J C stevenson s—8 cases ice, Remington and Co ; 625 cwts dry ginger, Dorabjee Rustomjee ; 7 bales hides, Mahomedbhoy Abdoo'a and Co.

FOR HAVRE.

Centennial—310 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co ; 250 bales cotton, Ralli Brothers.

Storaway—100 bales cotton, Vinay and Co ; 110 bales cotton, E Spinner and Co ; 100 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co.

Mongolia s—125 bales cotton, Vinay and Co.

Minerva s—875 cwts linseed, H Clason and Co ; 257 cwts rapeseed, Ralli Brothers ; 51 bales cotton, Tyerjee and Co ; 200 bales cotton, Jules Siegfried and Co ; 500 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co ; 50 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co.

Mirzapore s—650 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co.

FOR GENOA.

Tuscany s—100 bales cotton, E Spinner and Co ; 400 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co ; 325 bales cotton, Peel Cassels and Co.

Sumatra s—320 bales cotton, Peel Cassels and Co ; 200 bales Ralli Brothers.

FOR PORT SAID.

Nuphure—2,800 bales cotton, Knoop and Co.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Bengal s—250 bales cotton, Jules, Siegfried and Co.

FOR BARCELONA.

Fluellin—2c cwts bones, Woomerbhoy Chandabhoy.

FOR BREMERHAVEN.

Fluellin, 250 bales cotton, A Blascheck and Co.

FOR CALAIS.

Ardencluthn—2,250 cwts linseed, George, Lockeart and Co.

FOR DUNKIRK.

Petersburg s—7,500 cwts rapeseed, Finlay, Scott and Co.

FOR NAPLES.

Persia—400 bales cotton Knoop and Co.

FOR TRIESTE.

Pera s—1 cask coffee, P and O S N Co.

Emma Lawson s—200 bales cotton, Greaves, Cotton and Co ; 250 bales cotton, Peel, Cassels and Co.

FOR VENICE.

Peers s—400 bales cotton, Volkart Brothers ; 405 bales cotton, E Spinner and Co.

Emma Lawson s—150 bales cotton, Peel, Cassels and Co ; 50 bales cotton, George, Lockhart and Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Zambesi s—110 bales cotton, Currimbhoy Ebram ; 100 bales cotton, Nursey Kenowjee and Co.

## HIGH COURT.—26TH. MARCH.

(Before the Honourable SIR CHARLES SARGENT,)

LONG CAUSES.

365-76—Lynch and Tobin—Revulbhoy Jaichund vs Nahalchundbhoy Nathoobhoy and others—Tyabjee and Sjani.—Part heard.

573-76—Ilim ngton, Hore and Langley—Lalavshoo and another vs Premjee Muljee and others—Shapoorjee and Thacurdass and H and C.

188-76—Chalmers—Meredith Jones vs Joseph C. Lawrence and others —Jefferson and Payne.

229-76—L Fletcher—Nameebai vs Pudma Maloo—Balcrishna and B.

660-76—M H Khan—Eliazer Ezoobjee Sanker vs Nenbai widow —Tyabjee and Sayani.

228-76—Prescot and Winter—A Buchanan and others vs Hajee Abdoolrahim Abdoolla—Craigie, Lynch and Owen.

413-74—Tyabjee and Sayani—Nujmoodeen Shaikally vs Zenaboo widow and others—Jefferson and Payne.

653-76—Inverarity and B—Eduljee Cursejee C vs Eduljee Nuserwanjee J—J C Cama.

(Before the Honourable MR. JUSTICE BAYLEY.)

For Consent Decree.

252-75—J Macfarlane and G—Abdool Rahimon Essack vs Solomun Volkart and others—Jefferson and Payne.

LONG CAUSES.

19-77—A F Turner—James Newhouse vs The New Colaba Co Ld—Prescot and Winter—Part heard.

204-75—Macfarlane and G—Cullianjee Nemchund and others vs Bai Vijeore—Craigie, Lynch and Owen.

337-76—Khimrao P—Rao Bahadoor Madar S vs Rajoo Balloo—A P Turner.

278-76—L Fletcher—Mahaluxmibai vs Jumnabai—Jafferson and Payne.

568-74—Shapoorjee and Thacurdass—Chatoorbhooj Walljee and others vs Stephen Augustus Ralli and another—Jefferson and Payne.

(Before the Honourable MR. JUSTICE GREEN.)

LONG CAUSES.

84-76—Shamrao P—Hurrishunker Balcrushna and others vs Crustnarao Raghoonath and others—Crawford and Bowry and Jefferson and Payne and in person—Part heard.

266-76—Mr J Macfarlane—Manockjall Atmaram vs Dwarkadass Dayr bhoy—Postonjee K—Part heard.

550-75—Lynch and Tobin—The L B and M Bank Ld vs Ghella Henjee—Prescot and Winter.

316-76—Shapoorjee and Thacurdass—Cursondass Vullubdass vs Dyal Ruttonsey and another—Jefferson and Payne.

490-76—In person (Pauper)—Dhondee Chandroojee vs Bhimbai widow—N N Kothare.

269-76—In person (Pauper)—Dinbai and another vs Cursetjee Hormusjee s—Prescot and Winter.

244-77—Bicknell—J J Bocarro and another vs J Bocario and another—Craigie, Lynch and Owen.

379-75—Lynch and Tobin—The L B and M Bank Ld vs B Goodam Hoosein—Tyabjee and Sayani.

(Before the Honourable MR. JUSTICE PINHEY.)

LONG CAUSES.

694-76—Lynch and Tobin—Mooljee Hunraj vs Hajee Adam Hajee Esmail—M H Khan—Part heard.

27-77—J M cfarlane—Morarjee Tuleidass vs Bhanjee Nondass and others—Shapoorjee and Thacurdass.

178-77—B. Bicknell—Seth Dajeebai Bhugoobhai vs Mahomed Hajee Ally—Jefferson and Payne.

## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—MARCH 22.

McCausland, Major, Bombay R A, on leave, from Kirkee.

MARCH 23.

Walker, Lieut, Bombay 13th Regt N I, on leave, from Malesson.
Hoston, Surg major, Madras M D, on furlough, from Bangalore.
Dunsay, Lieut, Legal R A, on duty, from Deolalee.

DEPARTURES.—MARCH 24.

Walker, Bridg Genl, Madras Staff, on leave, to Neilgherries.
Willes, Sub Lieut, Bengal 38th Regt, to join, to Ferozpore.

MARCH 25.

Boyle, Major, Bengal 11th Lancers, to join, to Nowshera.
Hagge, Lieut Col, Bombay 66th Foot, to join, to Ahmednuggur.

## METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

BOMBAY, 23rd March 1877.

*Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah ..... | 29·835 |
| Temperature of the Air..... | 81·5 |
| Wet Bulb Thermometer..... | 74·8 |
| Dew Point ..... | 72·1 |
| Relative humidity of Air ..... | 0·729 |
| Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded—8). | 2·6 |
| Maximum temperature of air (read at 6 p.m)..... | 88·4 |
| Minimum do. do. (read at 9-30 a. m.)... | 74·3 |
| General Direction of wind .....NNW, N, NNW, NE, WNW, NW, NNW, N. | |
| Movement of wind in 24 hours ..... | 270 |

## POSTAL NOTICES.

### DEPARTURE OF OCEAN MAILS.

| Date. | Mail closes. | After packet. |
|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom .....Mar. 26 ... | 5-30 P.M. ... | 6-30 P.M. |
| Kurrachee ..... ,, 27 ... | 8-0 A.M. ... | 9-0 P.M. |
| Persian Gulf via Kurrachee. ,, 30 ... | 1-0 P.M. ... | 2-0 P.M. |
| China ..... Apr 3 | 3-0 P.M. ... | No after. |
| Australia ..... Mar 31 ... | 3-0 P.M. ... | packet |
| Mauritius and Reunion..... Apr. 9 ... | 3-30 P.M. ... | 4-0 P.M. |
| Zanzibr, &c. ..... ,, 9 ... | 3-30 P.M. ... | 4-30 P.M. |

### OVERLAND MAIL.

As the Overland Mail Steamers of the P. and O. S. N. Company leave Bombay every Monday soon after 7 P.M., the following are the hours for closing Mails :—

Letters will be received at the General Post Office up to 5-30 P.M.

Newspapers, Books, and Patterns up to 3 P.M.

Registered Letters up to 2 P.M.

Registered Letters, if fully prepaid together with an extra fee of 2 annas, will be received at the General Post Office between 2 and 4 P.M.

Late letters, if fully pre-paid by means of stamps in respect both of postage and of the late letter fee (2 annas each), will be received at the Wellington Pier Post Office from 5-30 to 6-30 P.M.

The latest hour for posting ordinary Overland Covers at the several Branch Post Offices is 4 P.M., and registered letters at 5 P.M.

Fully pre-paid letters will be received on board the Overland Mail Steamer after 5 P.M., and up to starting time (7 P.M.) by the payment of an additional fee of 4 annas. All others will be refused.

The Overland Mail Steamers will leave as under :—

| | 7 P.M. | | 7 P.M. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Monday ..... | Mar. 26 | Monday ..... | Apr. 9 |
| ,, ..... | Apr. 2 | ,, ..... | ,, 16 |

ZANZIBAR, MOZAMBIQUE, DELAGOA BAY, NATAL AND TABLE BAY, *VIA* ADEN.

Monday .....Apr. 9 | Monday ..... May 7

### POSTAGE ON LETTERS TO AFRICA.

Under a Treasury Warrant received from Her Majesty's Post Master General, the postage on letters from India to Mozambique, Delagoa Bay, Natal, the Cape of Good Hope, the Grey Comoro, Mayotta, Nossebe and Majunga, forwarded via Bombay to Aden and conveyed thence by the British India Steam Navigation Company's and Union Steam Ship Company's packets, is increased from 4 annas to 8 annas per half ounce.

Pre-payment in full by this route will continue to be compulsory and additional postage will be levied on delivery at destinati n of covers addressed to Mozambique, Delagoa Bay, the Great Comoro, Mayotta, Nossebe and M-junga.

Letters can be registered for transmission by this route for Natal and the Cape of Good Hope only the registration fee being 4 annas per cover.

Packets of Newspapers, Books, and Patterns can be sent by this route to Mozambique, Delagoa Bay, Natal and the Cape of Good Hope, at the rate of 2 annas per every four ounces, prepayment compulsory.


GRANT ROAD THEATRE.

NO PERFORMANCE TO-NIGHT, MONDAY.

GRANT ROAD THEATRE.

TUESDAY, 27TH MARCH.

CONTINUED SUCCESS OF

MADAME CARLOTTA TASCA,

THE CELEBRATED PIANIST,

AND

THE ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA BOUFFE COMPANY.

ON WHICH OCCASION WILL BE REPEATED (BY PARTICULAR DESIRE),

CHARLES LECOCQ'S MASTER-PIECE

GIROFLE, GIROFLA,

IN THREE ACTS.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

BOLERO.....Mr. H. VERNON.
MARASQUIN ..... ,, A. PLUMPTON.
MOUREZOUK (*a Slave*) ..... ,, J. BARTOLI.
PEDRO ..... ,, J. ROLLINS.
PIRATE CHIEF..... ,, G. FENDON.
PAQUITA ..... ,, G. BARKER.
AURORE ..... MRS. H. VERNON.
GIROFLE } (*Twin Sisters*) ..... MISS ELCIA MAY.
GIROFLA }

PIRATES, NOBLES, &c.,

Between the First and Second Acts

MADAME CARLOTTA TASCA

WILL PERFORM

POLKA DE LA REINE.....RAFF.

And between the Second and Third Acts

BY PARTICULAR DESIRE

SHAMROCK .....RONVILLE.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Dress Circle .....Rs. 4 | Stalls .....Rs. 3
Gallery ..... ,, 2 | Pit ..... ,, 1

Family Tickets admitting Three to the Dress Circle...Rs. 10
Doors open at 8-30 ; Commence at 9.

Box Office open at SOUNDY and Co., where Plan may be seen and Seats secured.

NOTICE.—The Tramway Cars will run to and from Byculla on the Nights of Performance.

SECURE YOUR SEATS EARLY !

MADAME CARLOTTA TASCA begs to announce that her GRAND BENEFIT CONCERT will take place at the Town Hall on WEDNESDAY, April 4th 1877, under the Patronage and in the presence of H. E. the GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY.

For further particulars see future announcements. Plan may be seen and places secured at Messrs. SOUNDY & Co.


## OVERLAND SUMMARY OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE

*Compiled for despatch by to-day's Mail.*
(WITH SUPPLEMENT.)

**Price—As. 4 per Copy.**

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Latest Telegrams.
English Political and Social Letter.
English Military.

THE FIRST Number of the New Series of the OVERLAND SUMMARY OF THE BO

# SPECIAL TELEGRAMS FOR THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

## SERIOUS FIRE AT AHMEDABAD: 180 HOUSES BURNT.

AHMEDABAD, 25TH MARCH.

A most serious fire broke out last night in a crowded quarter of the city called Sarungpore. It commenced about 8 o'clock and was at its height about 4 A.M. It was fortunately got under about 9 this morning, though still smouldering. About 180 houses have been destroyed, inhabited by rich Banians. The loss of property is estimated at about six lakhs of rupees. No lives were lost.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

## THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

LONDON, 24TH MARCH.

In yesterday's sitting of the House of Commons Mr. Courtney said he would postpone his motion for a resolution that the injustice, corruption, and cruelty of the Ottoman rule have released England from any obligation, at any time contracted, to maintain the independence and integrity of the Ottoman Empire.

A debate took place upon the motion of Mr. Fawcett in favour of bringing pressure to bear on Turkey for the better Government of her Christian subjects.

An adjournment of the debate was, however, approved of by the House.

## THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE.

LONDON, 24TH MARCH.

The University Boat Race came off this morning and resulted in the Oxford crew winning.

LONDON, 24TH MARCH, 10-15 A.M.

Later telegrams from up the river state that the result of the University Boat Race was a dead heat between the two crews and that Oxford is therefore not the winner.

## THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

LONDON, 24TH MARCH.

It is believed that the negotiations between Russia and England in reference to the signature of the Protocol presented by the former Power have failed.

## THE EASTER RECESS.

Lord Beaconsfield, Mr. Gathorne Hardy and Lord Salisbury leave town to-day for the Easter recess.

## THE MAILS.

LONDON, 23RD MARCH.

The Bombay Mails of the 5th instant arrived at Brindisi yesterday.

### LIVERPOOL WEEKLY COTTON REPORT.

LONDON, 23RD MARCH, NOON.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Total Week's Sales of Cotton .... | 45,000 | bales. |
| Amount forwarded ..... | 19,000 | do. |
| Do. Week's sales of Surats .... | 7,000 | do. |
| Amount forwarded ..... | 1,000 | do. |
| Do. Week's Imports of Cotton.. | 54,000 | do. |
| Do. do. do. Surats.. | 12,000 | do. |
| Do. Stock of Cotton ..... | 1,070,000 | do. |
| Do. do. Surats ..... | 36,000 | do. |
| Do. Stock of Cotton in London.. | 26,000 | do. |

LONDON, 23RD MARCH, AFT.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet.

The London Cotton Market has been dull.

Fair Dhollera ..... 6¾d.

The Manchester Market has been dull.

7 lbs. Shirtings ..... 6s. 4¼d.

8¼ lbs. do. ..... 7s. 6d.

40s. Mule Twist ..... 0s. 11¼d.

3 per cent. Consols for account .... 96⅝

5 per cent. French Rente, 1872 .... 108

Bar Silver ..... 53½

About £50,000 have been paid into the Bank of England to-day.

Departure—European.

### STEAMER REPORTS.

GALLE, 24TH MARCH, 7-30 A.M.

Steamer Peshawur, from Aden, arrived.

GALLE, 24TH MARCH, 10-40 A.M.

Mail steamer Lombardy, from Bombay, arrived.

TRINCOMALEE, 24TH MARCH, 1-45 P.M.

H. M. S. Himalaya left for Colombo.

### LINE REPORTS.—25TH MARCH.

Cable right to Fao. Turkish line right to Persa. Persian line right to London.

### RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON.

Market declining.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bank Bills, on demand .....1s. 8 9-16d. | per Rupee. | |
| Bank Bills, 6 months' sight...1s. 8d. | ,, | |
| Credits, 3 months' sight...1s. 8¼. | ,, | |
| Documents, 3 months' sight...1s. 8 15-16d. | ,, | |
| Sovereigns .....Rs. 11-7-6 each. | | |

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, who inspected last week the labourers on the relief works from Sholapore to Poona, has returned to Madras, and will not revisit the Bombay Presidency till towards the end of next month. He has promised to be present at a farewell dinner to be given to Sir Philip Wodehouse at the Byculla Club on the 26th of April. According to the usual precedent, which will, we suppose, be followed on this occasion, Sir Philip will remain in office as Governor till the afternoon of the 30th, and will be accompanied on board the steamer by Sir Richard Temple, who will then return to the Secretariat and be duly installed as the new Governor of Bombay.

H. E. SIR FREDERICK HAINES, who is at present the guest of His Excellency Sir Philip Wodehouse, will, we understand, leave Parell station by the mail train this evening *en route* for Simla. His Excellency, who will be accompanied by Lady Haines and his personal staff, will leave Bombay privately, the usual guard of honour being dispensed with.

THE report of Mr. Bryce's speech at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on Friday last to protest against the Cotton Frauds Act which we publish to-day is not complete owing to the omission of certain quotations which will be supplied in our next issue.

THE report current in London on Saturday that the final negotiations for peace between Russia and England have failed is probably correct; it being clear that Russia never intended to demobilize her army unless she had first secured by peaceful means as much as she could hope to get by fighting. The English Cabinet has evidently said its last word, as the chief members of the Ministry have left town for the Easter holidays.

FOR the first time since the institution of University rowing matches, the great annual boat race between Oxford and Cambridge has ended in a tie, so that Oxford still remains one race to the good on the long record. The race this year must have been a splendid one, it being clear from the telegrams that Oxford was at one time supposed to be winning pretty easily. Probably, Cambridge pulled up near Barnes Bridge and put on a spurt that surprised the too confident Oxonians. We suppose the race will not be rowed over again but will be allowed to stand as a tie.

SIR R. MEADE left for Mahableshwur on Saturday afternoon.

THE grants made on account of famine relief in the Madras Presidency amount to Rs. 1,44,59,914, of which sum Cuddapah has taken 18½ lacs, Bellary nearly 38½ lacs, Kurnool 30½ lacs, the Presidency 36½ lacs.

WE see it stated that on the recommendation of Sir Richard Temple, Mr. F. de H. Larpent, of the Accountant General's Department, has been selected to audit the famine accounts of the Madras Presidency, and will be allowed travelling expenses and a special allowance during the time of his employment on that duty. Mr. Larpent, it will be remembered, was appointed to a similar office in connection with the last famine in Bengal.

THE *Whitehall Review* says:—"We are authorised to state that there will be no celebration of Prince Louis Napoleon's birthday, on the 16th March, at Chiselhurst. Prince Louis Napoleon will return to Chiselhurst some time during the present month. The Empress will go to Spain to pay a visit to Her Majesty's mother, the Comtesse de Montijo."

THE Hyderabad correspondent of the *Madras Athenæum*, writing under date the 17th instant, tells the subjoined sensational story:—

Yesterday, at noon, two large vessels of soup and other articles of food of the men of the C. company of H. M.'s 2-16th Regiment were taken to the hospital of that regiment for the medical officers to examine, as it was suspected that poison of some kind had been mixed while they were being cooked. One of the cooks tasted the soup before serving it out to the men and discovered a very disagreeable taste and immediately gave the alarm of poison. There is nothing definite known as yet as to whether there is poison of any kind in it or not, and whether a portion of the soup will be sent down to Madras is not yet known. However, I am of opinion that a portion of the soup should be sent down to Madras to undergo a chemical examination in order that the truth may be arrived at. In case the suspicion is confirmed I believe that the Master Cook who was lately discharged will have a good many questions to answer. At present, I am told that all the cooks are placed under the rigid surveillance of the military authorities.

THE *Times* publishes the following paragraph about Madame Adelina Patti:—"It is stated that the Marquise de Caux, accompanied by her advocate, M. Devormandie, appeared on Tuesday (February 27) before the Civil Tribunal of the Seine to sue for authorization of separation from her husband. The Marquis de Caux was also present, with his counsel, M. Maza. The husband and wife were ushered into the private chamber of the President, in order that the usual statutory attempt at reconciliation should be made, but all representations failing, the Judge issued an order authorizing the lady to present her demand, and allowing her in the meantime to reside with her sister, Madame Strakosch. The same decree gives Madame Patti leave, during the suit, to sing at Paris, Vienna, London, and other cities where she has engagements. Madame Patti has left for Vienna, where she is engaged to sing on Saturday."

A CURIOUS *fracas* happened recently at the Benares College. A youthful Professor engaged in a hand to-hand scuffle with one of his pupils preparing for the L. A. Course. The Professor was so hot-headed that he could not command his temper at some impertinent answers of the student, but took the law into his own hands and administered a pretty sharp blow on the student's face. Smarting under the pain inflicted, the lad had not the patience to submit tamely to the rough treatment; and returned the Professor's blow in right earnest. Then ensued a good tussel between the Professor and his pupil, and had not the Principal arrived on the spot in time with the other Professors of the College, the consequence might have been serious. The *Indian Tribune* says that the truant lad was a Bengali and the Professor a new-fledged M. A. of this country. The fighting student has been expelled from the College, and some other Bengali students in the class who were in no way concerned in the *fracas* have shared the same fate for the fault of their countryman and fellow-student, but no reason is assigned for this proceeding.

WITH regard to the supply of grain to the Ratnagherry district, in reply to a memorandum from the Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division, dated 16th March 1877, who forwards a letter from the Collector of Ratnagherry, who states that the question of the supply of grain to that district during the monsoon is one that must cause anxiety, and who also draws attention to the advantages of Viziadroog as a port to which steamers can ply in the monsoon, and recommends that every endeavour should be made to secure dry storage room for any grain that it may be found necessary to send there, and adds that any further reports from the Collector will be duly submitted, the Government of Bombay have published the following resolution:—Mr. Crawford should furnish a careful estimate of the stocks, not only of natchni, but also of jowari, rice, &c.; already rice is nearly as cheap as natchni, and, as it is a better grain, there seems to be no reason why the people should not use it. By the coast, Ratnagherry can be approached in the monsoon by Viziadroog and also by Ratnagherry (Ninga Bay). where troops were landed in the monsoon of 1857. Grain could also, if necessary, be thrown into the district by the Ghaut roads from the Deccan, but Government do not share Mr. Crawford's apprehensions, and hope it will be found that there is food enough in the district for the Ratnagherry people. At the worst, it would be quite practicable to move the people above the Ghauts, and to provide means of feeding them there. The alternative Mr. Crawford points out is the purchase and storage of grain,—an arrangement which Government decline to sanction. Government have already sanctioned the expenditure necessary for the repair of the Modikhanna at Viziadroog, in order to provide grain merchants with dry storage during the monsoon, and this port is available at that season of the year.

WE take from the *Englishman* the following summary of the discussion on the Budget in the Viceroy's Council on Wednesday last:—

The debate on the Financial Statement of Sir John Strachey was begun in the Legislative Council on Wednesday, and we publish in the usual columns the first portion of it.

The Hon'ble Mr. Bullen Smith alluded to the unsatisfactory state of the Budget Statement, so far as regarded the announcement of the bills the Secretary of State would sell. To this Sir John Strachey replied that it was a matter for which neither the Government of India nor the Secretary of State was responsible, as it arose out of circumstances over which they had no control. It was extremely difficult, if not impossible, to pledge the Secretary of State to sell any particular quantity of bills at any specified time, in consequence of the fluctuations of exchange. But he could assure the proprietors of securities, as the point of raising loans in England had also been alluded to, that the Government would exert its utmost to see that their interests would not suffer by reason of any action taken by itself.

Mr. Hope criticised the Budget at some length, but generally approved of it. Sir Andrew Clarke, following the precedent afforded by the former proceedings when the Budget for the year was reviewed orally in open Council, entered at some length into explanations concerning the progress and prospects of the Public Works Department. The Lieutenant Governor also, in a lengthy speech, generally approved of the Budget; and His Excellency the Viceroy concluded the debate for the day by adjourning the Council to Wednesday next, when he intends to state his views on the subject.

On the question of exchange the *Englishman* makes the following remarks:—

One thing was made clear from the debate of Wednesday that with regard to the raising of loans, either in England or in this country, or to the terms on which the Secretary of State's bills on India are to be sold, neither Lord Salisbury nor the Government of India has as yet any fixed policy. We are told that these questions must be regulated by the state of the money market in England, over which neither the Secretary of State, nor the Government of India has any control. With regard to the sale of the Secretary of State's bills on India, we hardly think that such a comprehensive statement is justified; for, though he may not be able to control the whole of the English money market, he at any rate holds in his possession the trump cards of that part of it which concerns the Indian money market, as the rate of exchange in India is in a great measure regulated by the price of the Secretary of State's bills. We should not have thought it beyond the united intellects of the financial authorities at the India Office and in this country to devise some scheme by which the amount of bills to be sold every week could be fixed for a longer period than two months; but it appears that such is the case.

THE *Globe* publishes the following account of a lion and leopard fight:—"The Zoological Gardens at Pesth have just been the scence of a combat worthy of Nero or Elagabalus. The cage tenanted by a lion and lioness happened to be next to that in which dwelt a female leopard, for whom the captive queen of the desert entertained a special hatred. Probably she was jealous of the bright eyes and beautiful skin of her neighbour, and may possibly have suspected her lord and master of casting a tender regard or two across the barrier which separated the two dens. The suspicion, brooded over in silence, became a devouring passion, and it ripened into certainty at the precise moment when vengeance happened to become possible. The keeper of the gardens had inadvertently one day left hanging within the lion's cage the chain which served to draw up the partition, and the lion was not long in seizing it and beginning to pull. Whether he was animated with a spirit of fickleness or by curiosity alone must remain for ever a secret. But the result was that the partition flew up and the road remained open from one cage to the other. Through it instantly rushed the lioness, breathing hatred and malice, but the lion had no sooner dropped the chain and prepared to follow in chase than the portcullis fell and the passage was barred again. In the meantime, however, a struggle commenced between the two lady warriors such as has not been seen in Europe since the palmy days of the amphitheatre. The leopard, worsted at the first onset, attempted to take refuge from the foe by jumping and hanging to the top rails of the cage. It was all in vain, however. She was brought to bay again, and compelled to fight face to face with the terrible invader. For 20 long minutes the battle raged in royal style. The neck and shoulders of the lioness were deeply furrowed with red gashes. But her victim was overmatched, and at length thrown on her back, when the *coup de grace* was given by the savage fangs of the victor. The lion, who had been looking on—probably with mingled feelings—at the scene, will now, no doubt, be restored to the affectionate confidence of his spouse. Nothing remained, at the end of the encounter, of the pretty spotted skin which had so captivated him but a few torn and mangled shreds, and the romance of the cages, if romance there was, came to a tragic end."

The Government of India in the Financial Department having requested an opinion from the Bengal Government in regard to any rules and restrictions which it may be expedient to lay down for substituting local purchases of certain kinds of stores for the agency of the store department of the India Office, the Lieutenant-Governor has appointed a committee to report upon the subject. This committee consists of Major-General J. E. T. Nicolls, R. E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department, as president; and Colonel F. T. Haig, R.E., Joint Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch; Mr. H. Beverley, Officiating Inspector-General of Jails; Mr. A. Mackenzie, Officiating Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces; Mr. F. R. Boyce, Examiner of Public Works Accounts, Bengal; Mr. T. S. Isaac, Officiating Superintending Engineer, Presidency Circle; Major R. C. B. Pemberton, R. E. Superintending Engineer, on special duty under the Government of India, Public Works Department; and Surgeon-Major J. Browne, M. D., Secretary to Surgeon-General Indian Medical Department, as members. Mr. A. Mackenzie will act as secretary to the committee. The committee have been directed to consider and report on the following points:—1st.—What articles required by the various public departments under this Government could and should be obtained by local manufacture, instead of being procured from Europe. 2nd.—What description of articles to be obtained from Europe should be procured through the Secretary of State, and what by local arrangement. 3rd.—What rules and restrictions should be laid down in regard to obtaining articles from Europe by local arrangements. As it is also possible that articles which are not at present obtainable by local manufacture would become so if it were known that Government is likely to require such articles, the Committee are also to report on this subject. The Lieutenant Governor is also desirous of ascertaining the views, and of receiving the suggestions of the public mercantile bodies of Calcutta on this very important question, and has asked the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades' Association, and the British Indian Association for any suggestions they may wish to offer. Suggestions from other sources may also be sent to the Secretary to the Committee for consideration. The views and suggestions of the various Departments of Government on this question are also required; more particularly from the Marine and Educational Departments, and the Superintendent of Stationery.

THE *Glasgow Herald* makes the following remarks on a Parliamentary Economy:—"Constituents, if they seek after edification and a little amusement, had better straightway invest 2½d. in a Parliamentary paper just issued, showing the cost to the country of the Returns moved for in the House of Commons during the Session of 1875. We find that during the Session referred to close upon £14,000 was spent in the preparation and printing of these so-called Returns. Private members are responsible for nearly one half of this expenditure and the Government for the other. Among the former, Sir George Balfour shines as a star of the first magnitude. In the one year mentioned, he himself cost the country no less than £1,009 17s. 6d. for printing; and as if he had been actuated by a generous spirit of emulation, we find Mr. Charles Lewis ranking next in precedence, he having found it necessary to enlighten the world to the handsome extent of £856 1s. 6d. One paper alone which Sir George caused to be printed cost the respectable sum of £412 9s. 9d. True, it related to population, and ought to have been interesting as well as useful; but we find in looking into the instructive document which supplies us with our facts that the number of copies sold amounted to 51, and the total sum realized by their sale was a modest 16s. 3d. For whose benefit, instruction, and enlightenment are those enormous arrays of figures collected, the preparation of which entails very often the necessity of employing an extra staff of clerks? Though we have taken Sir George by virtue of his position in the return as typical of this great and growing evil, it would be manifestly unfair to him not to mention that there are other 'economists' in the House who sin in the same direction, but by no means to the same degree. We cite a few at random, with the sums for the expenditure of which they are responsible:—Sir John Hayes, £426; Mr. Morgan, £424; Mr. M'Laren, £397; Mr. Arkwright, £252; Mr. Cubitt, £389; Mr. Bass, £234; Colonel Beresford, £238; and Mr. J. Talbot, £233. The most modest man in the House, as was pointed out by our London correspondent, is the Marquis of Hartington, whose whole printed documents for the year 1875 cost only £1 18s. 10d. Next to him in thrift ranks Mr. Anderson, whose practice is gratifying to see is in harmony with his precepts, his total expenditure being £2 10s. as contrasted with £20, for which his younger colleague in the representation, Dr. Cameron, is responsible. As illustrated in the ratio of value to cost, we may mention that a return on County Courts asked for by Mr. Bass cost £224, for the sale of which the magnificent sum of one shilling and three pence was realized. A return obtained by Mr. Lewis, again, cost the ratepayers £807, and realized by sale one half penny less than 17s."

## THE PUNJAB FRONTIER.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT ON THE FRONTIER.)

PESHAWUR, 17TH MARCH.

IN the letters which I have already sent you, I gave your readers some account, brief though it necessarily was, of the political relationship which has heretofore been maintained between the British Government and the Ameer. Looking back upon the past from the time when the Government undertook to support the exiled Shah Shujah and to replace him on the Cabul *gadee*, the political intercourse between the two nations has been the very reverse almost of what we could have wished; and so far from having as yet accomplished the object with which our troops were despatched in 1838, the famous and ill-fated "Army of the Indus," though unopposed at first, was doomed to be but the initiative movement of a long series of blunders. Time and the progress of events quickly showed how wrong had been the estimate which the Government had formed of the people who resided beyond the Sohinani range, and how little we were capable of estimating their wishes or desires. The motive which led the British to replace the exiled monarch on the throne usurped by Dost Mahomed, was then and is now well known. Russophobia—that restless political malady which still afflicts so many both here and at home—was then in full swing. The Russians were advancing into, or rather through Central Asia, making their way slowly and surely towards the northern frontiers of Afghanistan. Persia, urged on by Russia, as was stated at the time, was threatening Herat—the Khyber of Afghanistan—the one available route for an army of invasion from the West, contemplating the conquest of Cabul and its adjacent districts. These movements, it was argued, when rightly viewed were the unfailing prognostics of an intended invasion of India, and the acceptance of this idea led the Government to seek a means whereby the movement might be retarded if not counteracted. Dost Mahomed was not in favour at the Indian Court, his friendship and willingness, if not his capacity, to play the part required of him, were doubted. Erroneous information, purporting, however, to be reliable, was received from time to time, and lead the Government to believe that the people of Cabul were dissatisfied with the Government of Dost Mahomed, and were prepared to receive the return of Shah Shujah with pleasure. Meanwhile the Government were not only affording protection to the exiled monarch in his retreat at Loodiana, but were paying him a liberal annuity to enable him to maintain something of the dignity to which he was supposed to be entitled by right. Shujah owed much to the British, and if he ever regained his throne, it could only be, not merely with their countenance but with their support. He himself exiled, in a foreign land, surrounded by people to whom he and his race seemed natural enemies, could never have attempted to recover his lost position. Under these circumstances the Government considered—and allowing for the imperfect information they possessed, not altogether unwisely—that to stay the impending advance of the Russian armies towards Hindustan, the creation of a firm and powerful monarchy in Afghanistan was at once the surest and most practicable plan. So far they were right. The weak, vascillating Governments—Governments whose reigns were counted almost by days and weeks, alternately losing and gaining territory, now controlling the length and breadth of Afghanistan, and anon flying before insurgent hosts, but never consolidating their power in the only manner which can secure permanent success, such Governments as these were ill-suited to meet the requirements which the British regarded as absolutely essential in the Afghan Government, to provide efficiently against the looked-for contingency of the aggressive approach of Russia. But the theory on which our Government acted, however perfect in itself, was doomed to lead them into error. As I have said, they were misinformed and misled as to the real state of affairs in Cabul and its dependencies. They believed that Dost Mahomed was not qualified to accomplish their wishes, and that under him the dismemberment, and not the consolidation of the empire, was to be looked for. What, then, was to be done? Naturally enough they turned to the exile who had already incurred a deep debt of gratitude for the treatment they had bestowed upon him, and the replacement of Shah Shujah on the throne that he had held but for a brief period was mooted and approved of. It was believed then that the accomplishment of this project would ensure that which the Government so earnestly desired—the consolidation and permanent formation of an Afghan Empire holding friendly relations with them, attending to their requirements and acting under their advice. But there were difficulties in the way of realizing the full measure of success which such a result offered that were not considered, or if considered, were thrown aside and left unprovided for. In the first place, the wild, unsettled, semi-barbarous condition of the Afghan nation, seems to have been but little thought of; the scattered tribes at enmity among themselves only acknowledged the rule of Dost Mahomed, as they had acknowledged that of his predecessors; that is, so long and so much as they choose, so long as no promising rival was in the field, and so much as the ruling power abstaining from interfering with or coercing them. Again, what reason was there to suppose that the people who were known, or may well be imagined to have regarded the British—fresh from the conquest of India—with suspicion; a people who it was well known regarded the acquirement of territority and the extension of supremacy as the sole legitimate object of Governments—a people who had watched our victorious progress from the Bengal coast to Delhi, with the prescience that each move we made was cutting down another barrier from between the two nations, until at length only the friendly territory of Runjit Sing lay between us and their frontier. What right had we to suppose that such a people would receive our nominee with other than the merest show of friendship such as the policy of the moment might dictate? But there was more even than this to step between us and the attainment of our wishes. To the Afghans, no less than to ourselves, it was well-known that our schemes embraced far more than the mere placing of a friendly Ameer on the Cabul throne, and the creation of peace, concord and order within the limits of that ever turbulent country was known to be not only wished for, but its accomplishment anticipated. Could we expect that a people like the Afghans—a people to whom war was an essential feature of their lives, to whom trade and toil were alike obnoxious—a people whose wild notions of independence and freedom were directly opposed to those of order and loyalty which we in common with all civilized countries held as essential—a people whose very nature was repellant to the schemes we fondly harboured—could we imagine that they would tamely submit to be ruled by our *protege*, more especially when it was known that king in name, he was in reality to be little more than a puppet in our hands, the tool, in fact, with which we were to mould the Afghan nation into the shape which filled our own notions of propriety and would most contribute to our success? They had seen how country after country had fallen before our triumphant arms, kingdom and State, Raja and Emperor alike bad bent before us, and we bid fair ere long to reign as we now do, successful over the length and breadth of India—the first and only conquerors of the entire country. They had seen all this and they viewed it in the same light with which in earlier times they had regarded the vacillating success of the Indian potentates with whom they had been in contact, with but one difference—and that one, one which told against us, for it was the supremacy of our arms, a struggle against which they doubtlessly view with apprehension. They knew well the exact strength of the armies with which we had contended, and they were in a position to measure their strength with ours and to decide that only necessity should bring them to the test of the battle field. This being so, calm reflection should have told our Government that, however popular the cause of Shah Shujah may have been, or, on the other hand, however dissatisfied the people may have been with Dost Mahomed's rule, the very fact that Shah Shujah was about to return as our nominee upported by and, in a measure, supporting us, was in itself sufficient to overrule whatever claims he otherwise possessed, and expose him to the suspicious distrust of his subjects. Such thoughts as these seem not to have weighed with Lord Auckland or his councillors; had they done so, he would have sought to strengthen and consolidate the power which Dost Mahomed had taken into his hands. The fact that Shah Shujah was the legitimate successor of Ahmed Shah Abdulli was one unworthy of consideration. Among the Afghans, as amongst all such barbarous nations—and the strict term requires but little moderation when applied to them—the power to seize and hold confers a stronger right to the throne than any hereditary rights whatever, no matter by what lapse of time they may have been honoured. Most truly does Elphinstone point out the fact that the Ameer of Cabul is but a mock representation of an absolute monarchy, subject in almost all that the kings of old deemed their prerogatives to the capricious wills—nominally of the leading tribes but virtually of the popular leaders of the day. Chosen from among the nearest claimants to the throne, he knows well that the people look but indifferently on his claims so far as they are based on his pedigree, for much as the people of Afghanistan adore a long genealogy they

"Smile at the claims of long descent."

When they are urged as the basis of the right to rule, and consequently, as Elphinstone remarks, "the power of the Dooranee monarchy and the organization of the other tribes afford permanent means for the control of the Royal authority." And this is the difficulty which remains to the present day to complicate our political relations with the Cabul *vaj* Viewing all these points in an unprejudiced light, can it be doubted that our patronage of Shah Shujah was calculated to thwart the very projects which we sought to accomplish by its means? Such was not the opinion when the army of the Indus proceeded to Cabul. "Nothing could well exceed the enthusiasm which prevailed among the troops on being ordered on the expedition." Such is the testimony of Dr. Atkinson who went with them, but the enthusiasm was not universal. There were men then who held that the wiser policy would have been to have conciliated the good will and strengthened the power of Dost Mahomed, and it was mainly owing to Sir Alexander Burnes who had been employed as envoy to the Court of Dost Mahomed that this proposal was rejected. Sir Alexander Burnes—then a Captain only—had been despatched to Cabul in 1837 with the object of bringing about friendly relations between the Sikhs under Runjit Sing and the Afghans. Under the orders which he had received from Lord Auckland he demanded that the Afghans should renounce all claim to the possession of the territory lying on the Indus, and then in the hands of Runjit Sing. He was met at the Ameer's Court by a Russian named Vikovitch who was there as an envoy from the Russian Court, though he has since been disowned by it. Sir Alexander demanded the dismissal of the Russian envoy and the Ameer refused, whereupon Sir Alexander returned to India and lent his support to the cause of Shah Shujah. The favourable manner in which Vikovitch was apparently treated by the Ameer was perhaps the strongest argument which could have been advanced in favour of the theory that it was impossible or inexpedient to conciliate the usurper; but it must be borne in mind that the mission on which Sir A. Burnes had departed was one almost hopeless in its nature, for during the preceding years Dost Mahomed had sought and been refused the aid of the English in a projected endeavour which the Ameer had contemplated with a view to the seizure of the western portion of the Punjab. Be the intentions, or the feelings of the Ameer at the time what they may have been, there is no doubt but that the slight rebuff thus given was eagerly jumped at as affording the needed sanction for the proposed restoration of Shah Shujah. Of the impolicy of this scheme there cannot now be two opinions; the disastrous retreat from Afghanistan which followed fast upon the triumphant occupation of that country, with the circumstances which lead to it, tell their own tale. It was a blunder entailing results as unequalled in English history as they were unlooked for; but it was a blunder which might have proved, in a measure, beneficial, if the lesson it too plainly taught had been grasped by our administrators. Unfortunately it was not so. On the 8th of May 1839 Shah Shujah was crowned at Candahar in November of the following year. Dost Mahomed surrendered himself, only to reoccupy the throne from which he was ousted, when the revolution of '41-'42 compelled the British to withdraw from Afghanistan, the ignominious death of Shah Shujah having shattered all the hopes which had been founded on him. In '56 the Dooranee Chief, Rahimdil Khan, conspired against the restored Ameer Dost Mahomed and sought for aid from Persia. Thereupon the Ameer applied to the English, and on New Year's Day 1857 a treaty was concluded and the Ameer was granted 8,000 guns, flint and percussion, and one lakh of rupees per mensem during the continuance of the war. With the co-operation of the English the Persians were compelled to retire and relinquish their proposed occupation of Herat. The succeeding facts may be briefly stated: Dost Mahomed Khan died in 1863, and Shere Ali Khan, his son, succeeded unopposed to the throne. Meanwhile Afghanistan had been comparatively quiet, and the reign of Shere Ali Khan bid fair to be peaceful and prosperous. But the elements of discord were only smothered, and had the English been anxious to foster disaffection and the disorganization of the country, they could not have chosen a better way of doing so than the manner in which they acted. By the treaty with Dost Mahomed we were bound to accept his legal successor and to acknowledge his right to rule in Afghanistan. We did not do so. Six months elapsed between the ascension of Shere Ali Khan to the throne and the hesitating recognition which we at length accorded him. What was the consequence? Plainly, seeing what was, indeed, admitted in India that Shere Ali Khan was not the Ameer whom the English would have welcomed to the throne, since current rumour reported him as being not altogether friendly inclined towards the nation who now held the Punjab, his half brother Azim Khan was induced to rebel, knowing that the Government were inclined to look upon his success with favour. The administrators who had blundered so egregiously in their treatment of Dost Mahomed were gone, but their successors were not a whit wiser in their generation and afforded indirect encouragement to the rebel Azim. Thus favoured he pushed on, and Afzul Khan—another half brother of the Ameer—was crowned at Cabul in 1866. The infatuation of our Government seemed to reach its height at this point, and while Shere Ali Khan still retained a portion of his territory, they acknowledged the usurper as "walee" of Cabul, a title all but synonymous with that of Ameer. Early in the following year they greeted him as Ameer—thus sanctioning his usurpation—and in doing so encouraged the very idea which it was their duty as their interest to suppress. While anxiously wishing for the consolidation of the Afghan nation, they had twice lent their aid in disturbing the only two reigns which had ever tended towards such an end. But the blunder which brought Shah Shujah to an untimely end was but the forerunner of the blunder which the recognition of Afzul Khan proved to be. Afzul died in '67 and Azim Khan succeeded him. Meanwhile Shere Ali Khan sought the aid of the English and prepared for a final struggle to recover his throne. The sought for aid was refused, and Shere Ali started alone—the whole weight of English influence, the value of which we can hereafter test, arrayed against him, but he went to victory, and the close of '68 saw him reseated at Cabul, well received and unopposed; and once more the Indian Government sat with its finger in its mouth, looking foolishly on as it saw its political theories once more exposed to ridicule and felt that, while aiming at a certain end, they had in reality been frustrating its accomplishment. As in the case of Dost Mahomed, the course which true political foresight would have suggested from the first had ultimately to be adopted, and we accordingly find the Government in 1869 again recognizing Shere Ali Khan as Ameer and granting him a subsidy. Such is the tale of our diplomatic relationship with Cabul, where Shere Ali Khan still remains, after a longer and more peaceful occupancy of the throne than any of his immediate successors enjoyed.

There is a saying that "for every Waterloo will come a Wellington;" but the record I have given above shows that an old adage, like the oldest inhabitant, is not infallible. Had there been a man of true political ability in India to influence the Governments of Lord Auckland or Sir J. Lawrence, the results of our political connection with Cabul will have been far different. The principal on which both Governments worked was erroneous. They held—or at least acted as if they held—the theory that political skill consists in using the man who favours your cause; whereas true political science should have taught them that the highest power of policy is to mould your adversary to suit your purpose. Granted that Dost Mahomed and Shere Ali Khan were both unfriendly to the British Government. What, then, was that a reason to hunt them forth in favour of any upstart who offered? I fancy not. The right course to pursue—and it needed no experience to prove it—was to conciliate, persuade and flatter. If need be, until their friendship was won and their co-operation secured. There was nothing impossible in such a task but the want of men of political ability. This other course has been pursued, and what are the consequences? To the present day ill-feeling and dislike on the part of the Afghans and their ruler towards us. We have given them good reason to know that whatever interest we take in them and their country is founded on our own. No professions of friendship which we can now make, no declarations of a disinterested concern for their welfare, will now be received otherwise than with a scornful laugh. We have twice assisted to overthrow rulers who were popular enough, we have twice conspired in favour of impotent factions, and we have twice thrown the balance of our influence directly against the wishes of the Afghan people, and for what? Simply for our own ideal benefit. Had we acted in an upright manner we would, in the first instance, have gone to Dost Mahomed, admitted the position he held, and spoken plainly to him, "You are the head of the Afghan nation, we require your support for the defence of our frontier, but the Raja of the Punjab is our ally and we cannot allow you to molest him. a Abandon your designs on him, agree to give us your support, and we on our part will consent to any reasonable demands you may make on us." It may be an open question that is what we did when Sir Alexander Burnes was despatched to Cabul in 18:7. Granted, but it was done then as a second thought; it was done probably without a wish for a favourable reception of the proposal, and it was done more in the manner of a conqueror dictating terms than of a nation suing for friendship. What was thus tardily done should have been done earlier in the day—much earlier—and in a more compliant and more friendly spirit. Under such conditions the results might have been far different. In the second instance let his admirers say what they will, no one can doubt but that the tardy recognition of Shere Ali Khan served to strengthen the cause of his opponents if it did no more; while he admitted, if not actually avowed, distrust with which his intentions were regarded, added still more to the unfavourable influence our action created. The prompt and ready recognition of Shere Ali Khan, and an early exhibition of a desire for the existence of friendly relations between us, and for the consolidation of his power would have so discouraged his opponents that they would never have attempted to oust him from Cabul. Again, had we granted him the aid he sought when he sought to recover the ground he had lost, we might have won his friendship even then. He succeeded—"alone he did it" as Major Bell exclaims—and we are in no wise his creditors as we might have been. Blunder upon blunder, such has been our Afghan policy up to the present day. What is to be its future we have now to see. That the present Government have decided upon a change of policy is now admitted. What that change is to be we shall discuss hereafter, but before I touch on that subject, a brief glance at the object to be sought after in regulating our political relationship with Cabul is almost essential to a just comprehension of the merits of the questions at issue.

In the first place, then, we must consider the change which has taken place in the condition and surroundings of Afghanistan since we annexed the Punjab. The character of all nations is necessarily more or less affected and regulated by the nature and condition of the countries by which it is surrounded. Thus, for ages before the annexation of the Punjab, it was the seat of more or less extensive empires and kingdoms, none of which, however, became consolidated, and the restless Oriental craving for new territories and fresh conquests was ever leading its conquerors to leave it more or less unprotected, while they and their armies sought in other lands for fresh laurels. Under such conditions the Punjab continually afforded a fair field for the employment of the Afghan troops, and consequently we find them pouring through the Khyber Pass time after time, never repulsed but to return again. But the absence of the Ameer's troops on such occasions afforded opportunities which the discontented or ambitious governors or chiefs of tribes left behind gladly seized. Hence the constant state of turmoil and dismemberment in which we find the Afghan country up to a recent period. The possession of the Punjab was the *ignis fatuus* which lead the Ameers to their own destruction. Now it no longer exists, and we see the result in the long period which has elapsed since the occurrence of any formidable rebellion or conspiracy within the Ameer's territory. The ruler of Afghanistan has his mind no longer turned from the attention to home affairs which is necessary for the preservation of peace by the possibility of increasing his power by conquest. On the east he is bounded by the British with whom he well knows it would be ruinous to contend; on the north he has Balkh and Bokhara still standing between him and the Russian, and he knows how futile it would be for him to attempt an increase of territory which would only bring him face to face with the all-conquering Russian; to the west his old foe Persia stands ever ready to resist aggression, and only anxious for an excuse for war to break loose upon him; to the south Beloochistan offers but little inducement, such as has seldom tempted the desires of the Afghan kings.

He has thus been left in the midst of conquering nations with whom he knows he cannot compete. Naturally enough self-interest dictates to him now the very line of policy which we are anxious to see him adopt—the consolidation and strengthening of his power within the limits of Afghanistan. And there is some reason to believe that Shere Ali Khan has already realized the position in which he stands. How, then, are we concerned with the affairs of Afghanistan? This is a question which at the present day different parties reply to in different ways. Briefly, all opinions may be classed under three heads. 1. Those who look to the integrity of Cabul as our only safeguard against an invasion of India by the Russians. 2. Those who regard the integrity of Cabul as conducive to the imposing of a limit or restraint upon the aggressions of the Russians, but not as essentially necessary to the safety or welfare of our own territory. 3. Those who look upon that as a measure of precaution, we should occupy Cabul, and take it *nolens volens* under our protection. There are other parties, but at present we need not consider them. Among them may be mentioned the extraordinary proposition put forth by Major Bell, to the effect that we should cede the trans-Indus Punjab to the Afghans, adopting the Indus as our frontier line.

# BOMBAY.

A VAGRANT.—A European, named Thomas Lennon, was on Saturday declared a vagrant by Mr. Dossbhoy Framjee, at the Girgaum Police Court, and was ordered to be sent to the Government Workhouse.

LECTURE TO ENGLISH SPEAKING NATIVES.—The third lecture of this course will (D. V.) be delivered this evening at

## SALES BY AUCTION.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON AND Co.

AUCTION SALE of valuable handsome household furniture, splendid piano, rifle, rich garden, carriages, &c., &c., at No. 19, Altamont Road, Cumballa Hill, the property of F. W. Stevens, Esq., will be sold by Public Auction on the 29th inst., at 1 P.M.

Catalogue are published and the property will be on view from 4 P.M. this day.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.

Bombay, 26th March 1877.

BENNETT AND COMPANY, No. 4, FORBES STREET.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY.

THIS DAY, MONDAY, the 26th instant, at 3 P.M., Messrs. BENNETT and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, on their respective premises, by order of Cassibai, wife of Withuldass Juggonath, Executrix of the Will of Manoovurbai, widow of Gungadass Vishnkundass, and on account and at the risk of Narayen Junardhan, the mortgagor, the following landed properties, viz.—

LOT No. 1.

All that piece or parcel of Government land or ground, together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling house standing thereon, situate, lying and being on the south side of Ballajee Soamjee Street, being in the Registration sub-district of Mazagaon, in the town of Bombay, containing by admeasurement one hundred and fifteen and one-twelfth square yards or thereabouts, and registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 523, and in the books of the Collector of House Assessment under No. 19, and bounded as follows: that is to say, on the east by the house of Roopjee Mody, on the west by house No. 19, A. assessed by heriandas described, the property of the late Mr. Jasardhunjee Ballajee Shamseth, on the north by the Ballajee Shamseth street, and on the south by a sweeper's passage.

LOT No. 2 on TUESDAY, the 27th instant, at 4 P.M.

All that piece or parcel of land or ground, with the messuage, tenement or dwelling-house thereon standing, situate on the south side of Ballajee Shamseth Street, in the sub-district of Mandvee, in the Island of Bombay, containing by admeasurement fifty square yards, be the same little more or less, and bounded on the east by the said house No. 19 firstly hereinbefore described, belonging to the late Mr. Junardhunjee Ballajee Shamseth, on the west by the house No. 25 also of the late Mr. Junardhunjee Ballajee Shamseth, on the north by the said Ballajee Shamseth Street, and on the south by a sweeper's passage, assessed by the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 523, and by the Collector of Assessment under No. 19.

AUCTION SALE of valuable and handsome household furniture plated, glass, and porcelain ware, a large open carriage, a pair of Australian horses, four horse a charger) harness, &c., at No. 6 Marine Lines, Esplanade.

TO-MORROW, TUESDAY, the 27th instant, at 1 P.M., Messrs BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at the abovementioned place, the handsome household furniture, carriages, horses, &c., the property of an officer breaking up his establishment. The same comprises rich star cut glassware, handsome dinner dessert and breakfast services, plated ware such as cruet and pickle stands, tables and chamber candlesticks, &c., handsome Blackwood French polished bureaux, sofas as a set of dining table in 4 pieces, dining room chairs, sideboard, whatnot, circular, pier, and lady's writing tables easy, folding, lady's low, and drawing room chairs, hair sofas, ottoman, cane-ment stands, teapoys, a mahogany rail-toned grand square piano by "Collard and Collard," rich Brussel's carpet, Hinks patent hanging bronze lamp, veranda chairs, English iron painted cots, reclining sofas, dressing and washing tables, dressing glasses, cloth safes and linen presses, chest of drawers, towel horse, screens, hat stand, dispense articles, &c.

AT 1 P.M.

1 Handsome English built open carriage by Thrupp and Maberly, London.

1 Pair handsome Australian horses (one horse a charger).

1 Set of English brass mounted carriage harness,

No Catalogue and the property is now on view.

AUCTION SALE of a valuable collection, of choice and rare plants, at Nepean Sea Road, No. 134, Malabar Hill.

On TUESDAY, the 3rd and WEDNESDAY, the 4th April next, at 6-30 A.M. Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at the abovementioned place, a valuable collection of choice and rare plants, belonging to Dr. H. Cook, M.D.

Catalogues will be published and the plants will be on view 3 days before the day of sale.

AUCTION SALE of valuable and handsome blackwood French polished household furniture, best plated rich glass and porcelainwares, a first-class sweet toned mahogany grand square piano by "Soundy and Co.," a first class full size English mahogany slate billiard table, by "Thurston and Co., London, a handsome English-built open carriage by "Simpson and Co.," &c., at No. 14, Victoria Road, Byculla.

On WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant, at 1 P.M., Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at the abovementioned place, the valuable and handsome household furniture, plate, billiard table, carriages, &c., the property of the late Captain G. F. Henry, the same comprises set of rich thin stem glassware, handsome dinner and dessert services as plated ware, such as a set of electro-plated fiddle pattern spoons and forks, butter pots waiter, table and chamber candlesticks, tumbler and glass covers, cutlery &c., handsome blackwood French polished household furniture, such as a set of dining table in 6 pieces for 30 persons, set of camp table, Marsala and Maple pattern arm chairs, whatnot, side board, circular, pier, writing, and side tables, easy, folding, prodeus, drawing-room and veranda chairs, ottoman, conversation and reclining sofas, music stand, teapoys, chiffoniers, a first class sweet toned English mahogany grand square piano by "Soundy & Co., a first class full size English mahogany slate billiard table by "Thurston and Co.," rich brussels carpets, Tucker's plated single, treble, and four lights hanging regand lamps, a handsome bronze 6 lights billiard lamp, screens, hurisands, flower vases, first rate coromolithographs, engravings, and oil paintings in gilt frames, treble branched wall shades, blackwood four post bedstead bedsteads iron cot, camp cots, dressing and washing tables, cheval and glasses, clothes and gown presses, chest of drawers, wardrobes, china cabinet wood almirah, food and shoe houses, dispense and cook-room articles, copper cooking utensils, a collection of choice and rare plants, books, etc.

AT 1 P.M.

A handsome English built opera carriage by "Robert Ness."

1 do. Madras built mail phaeton by "Simpson & Co.'

set of English single and double harness.

Catalogues are published and the property is now on view.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY.

On WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant at 4 P.M., Messrs. BENNETT & Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the premises, in pursuance to the High Court decree, dated 29th January 1877, in suit No. 311 of 1875.

LOT No. 1, AT 4 P.M.

All that piece or parcel of Fazendary land or ground of which the Church of Nossa Senora De Esperanca is the Fazendar, together with the dwelling house standing thereon, situate without the Fort of Bombay, at the northern side of Oomercandy Parady, in the sub-district of Mandvee, containing by admeasurement 350 square yards, and bounded on the east by the house of Mr. De Silva, on the west by the property of Moosejee Rahimjee, on the north by a chanter or house No. 27, belonging to Pedro Fernandes and on the south by the public passage.

LOT No. 2, AT 5 P.M.

All that piece or parcel of Fazendarez ground of which the said Church of Nossa Senora De Esperanca is the Fazendar, together with the dwelling house or chapel standing thereon, situate without the Fort of Bombay, at the northern side of the Oomercandy Parady, in the sub-district of Mandvee, containing by admeasurement 168 square yards, assessed under No. 61, and bounded on the east by the passage, on the west by the property of Moosejee Rahimjee, on the north by the Fazendaree vacant ground, and on the south partly by the said house No. 24, belonging to the said Pedro Fernandes, partly by the property of J. De Silva, and partly by the property of J. De Silva.

AUCTION SALE of valuable and handsome household furniture, best plated, rich crockery and glassware. A handsome 4 seating English built 4 seated brougham, a pair of handsome dark bay Australian horses, set of carriage harness, &c., at Paper Currency, Fort.

On SATURDAY, the 31st instant at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction at the above mentioned place the valuable and handsome household furniture, brougham, horses, &c., the property of Dr. G. W. Chitty. Full particulars will be given hereafter. Catalogues will be published hereafter, and the property will be on view 4 days before the day of sale.

AUCTION OF VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY.

Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, on THURSDAY, the 5th day of April next, at 4 P.M., on the premises by the power invested in Indenture of Mortgage, dated 2nd day of August 1875, between Mistry Mowjee Madowjee and Menon Essak Dossa Menon.

All that undivided third part or share of and in all that piece of land with the messuage, tenement and dwelling house and outhouses standing thereon, situate, lying and being at and abutting on the west side of Khoja Street, in the sub-district of Bhooleswur, in the City of Bombay, containing by admeasurement two hundred and fifty and five-tenths square yards or thereabouts, and bounded on the east by the said Khoja Street, on the west by a sweepers' passage, on the north by the house of Fatha Moojee, and on the south by the path or passage leading to the chawl or range, belonging to one Jainabai, and which said land is registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 2,476, and which said premises were formerly assessed by the Collector of Assessment under No. 13, but now under No. 15 and were formerly and are now in the occupation of tenants.

BENNETT & Co.

Bombay, 26th March 1877.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY, 2, MARINE STREET, BOMBAY.

USUAL AUCTION SALE.

THIS DAY, MONDAY, the 26th instant, at 2 P.M., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co., will sell by Public Auction at their rooms.

20 bales grey shirtings 6 and 6½ lbs.
5 " " 11 lb 54 inches.
15 cases orange and green cambrics 28 yards.
5 " white figures 24 yards.
10 " China pattern printed twilled cambrics.
10 " T red garments 28 yards.
7 " imitation T red stripes 30 yards.
3 " T red scarfs.

The remainder of an invoice of clocks, &c., comprising lever eight day clocks, silver dupleax, and Geneva watches and small musical boxes.

10 crates earthenware comprising breakfast and tea cups and saucers, table plates, rice dishes, bowls, &c.

10 cases 2 and 1 inch chimneys.

A mahogany square piano by Collard and Collard.

A fountain and a tunetical box.

30,956 running feet red-wood flooring tongued and grooved 6 by ½.

SALE of landed properties in Cavel opposite the Free General Assembly Institution, Agiary Lane.

Under instructions from the Administrator General Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. will TO-MORROW, TUESDAY, the 27th instant sell by Public Auction at 4 P.M. the undermentioned landed properties belonging to the estate of the late Mr. Celestino Salvador Musquito.

Lot No 1.

A piece of fazundaree ground with dwelling house, standing thereon, assessed under No 44, and situate in Jerbhat in Cavel.

Lot No 2.

A piece of fazundaree ground with dwelling house standing thereon assessed under No 40, and situate in Jerbhat in Cavel.

Lot No 3

A piece of fazundaree ground with dwelling-house standing thereon situate in Jerbhat in Cavel.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale application may be made to the undersigned.

AUCTION SALE of fresh oilmans stores from the celebrated Purveyors Crosse and Blackwell per last landed ex s. evern.

On WEDNESDAY, the 28th March at 3 P.M., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co., will sell by Public Auction at their rooms an invoice of fresh oilmanstore comprising assorted pickles and tartrunis, mushrooms and walnut catsup, Harvey sauce, in pineapple, vegetables, potted meats, red herrings, Yarmouth bloaters, fresh herrings, Jordon almonds, soupeour raisins, muscatel blacknutshrooms, Ox tongues and bologna sausages, crystalized and candied peels, fruits in syrup, Uriltanire and Irish bacon, Cheddar and Berkley cheese, white wine and malt vinegar, Durham mustard, tapioca, Worcestershire sauce, &c.

AUCTION SALE of handsome household furniture, plated glass and porcelainwares, at Nos. 2 and 3 Marine Street, Fort.

On TUESDAY the 3rd April, we commencing at 1 P.M., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction on the 1st floor of their rooms, Nos. 2 and 3 Marine Street, Fort, the handsome household furniture of a Parsee Gentleman.

Full particulars will be given hereafter.

SALE OF VERY VALUABLE & NICELY SITUATED BUNGALOW OF DHURUMSALLA, at Mahalaxmee or Warden Road, and also very valuable furniture in the said Bungalow.

Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. will on THURSDAY, the 5th day of April next, at 4 P.M., on the premises sell the following land and premises by consent of the mortgagees and by order of the mortgagors, viz:—

All that piece or parcel of land or ground with the messuage, tenement or dwelling house or Dhurumsalla, stable and cook-room standing thereon, situate, lying and being at Breach Candy or Mahlaxmee, on the north side of the Warden Road, in the district of Bhooleswur, in the Island of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 2157 square yards, or thereabouts, and bounded, on the east by the channel be onging to Dhakjee Dadajee, on a public passage, on the west by the vacant ground belonging to the Temple of Dhakjee Dadajee, on the north by the property belonging to the family of the late Purbhoo, Bhaiker Soonjee, and on the south by the vacant ground of Dhakjee Dadajee's Temple and the said Warden Road, and which said premises are now assessed under No. 66.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to the undersigned.

Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. will also sell by order of the owner the valuable furniture contained in the said Bungalow.

Further part culars will appear hereafter and the property on view from the 1st April.

Bombay, 26th March. CRAWFORD & Co.

## NOTICE.

## REDUCTION IN PRICE.

## APOLLINARIS WATER.

Arrangements have now been made by which this celebrated Water can be had at the following reduced prices:—

CASK, containing 8 dozen Pints..... Rs. 16 0
" " 6 " Quarts..... " 18 0
" " 4 " " ..... " 13 0

# APOLLINARIS
# A NATURAL MINERAL
## PURE, NATURAL, EFFERVESCING WATER
## FROM THE APOLLINARIS BRUNNEN. WATER.

APOLLINARIS WATER.—THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATERS.—" A great boon to all, but especially suited by its absolute purity and mild alkalinity to ward off the most fatal diseases of TROPICAL CLIMATES."—*British Medical Journal.*

"Possesses organic purity in the highest degree, wholly charged with its own Natural Gas. The production of the spring is equivalent to 40,000,000 of quart bottles per annum."—J. A. WANKLYN, V. Pres. of the Society of Public Analysts, &c., &c.

APOLLINARIS WATER.—" FAR SUPERIOR TO ORDINARY MANUFACTURED AERATED WATERS."—*Medical Times.*

APOLLINARIS WATER.—" The favoured drink of the favoured classes. The fashion in the Clubs, and universally recommended as a pure, refreshing drinking water by the Medical Profession. Especially suited moreover for Tropical Climates."—*London Medical Record.*

"APOLLINARIS WATER has rapidly attained a great and well-deserved popularity in England. Particularly valuable to Indians having or fearing a touch of liver or disordered digestion."—*Practitioner.*

APOLLINARIS WATER.—Inspector General Macpherson, M.D., late H. M Indian Army, author of "Baths and Wells," &c., writes: "The advantage of Apollinaris Water is THE CERTAINTY OF ITS PURITY. In India it is difficult even with every care to obtain water for the manufacture of Soda Water that is free from impurities. THE APOLLINARIS WATER OUGHT TO BE A GREAT BOON TO INDIA."

Professor Macnamara, late Prof. University of Calcutta, &c., writes: "Soda Water in India is frequently polluted with drainage and organic impurities, which are the direct cause of cholera, typhus and dysentery. Apollinaris is absolutely pure. I STRONGLY ADVISE INDIAN RESIDENTS TO DRINK IT. IT IS FAR MORE REFRESHING AND WHOLESOME THAN SODA WATER."

Consumers can now be supplied with Apollinaris Water in Soda Water Bottles which can readily be sold when empty. They are cautioned to see that Bottles have SMITH, BILDSOUGH & Co.'s name on the Label, otherwise they may purchase water not properly bottled for export.

OF ALL RESPECTABLE CHEMISTS AND DEALERS.

Descriptive Pamphlets, with analyses, Prices, &c., on application to Agents:—

CUTLER, PALMER & Co., BOMBAY.

# MESSRS. C. MARCKS & CO.'S
## FIRST CLASS WATCHES.

SPECIALLY manufactured for India and warranted to keep correct time in any temperature.

Gentlemen's Gold Hunting Keyless Lever Watches, with Compensation Balance, ¾ Plate and Jewelled in 10 holes, first quality, cannot be too highly recommended ..... Rs. 350
Do. Gold Semi-Hunting Do. Do. ..... " 350
Do. " Crystal-Faced Do. Do. ..... " 330
Do. " Hunting. Do. 2nd Quality Do. ..... " 290
Gold Watches, not Keyless, from ..... Rs. 150 to Rs. 250
Ladies' Gold ¾ Hunting Keyless Lever Watches in plain, Engine-turned and richly chased Cases ..... Rs. 225 to Rs. 250
Do. Gold Crystal-Faced Keyless Lever Watches, with Compensation Balance ..... " 200
Do. Gold Watches, Cheaper Descriptions, not Keyless, Open-Faced, Hunting and ¾ Hunting ..... Rs. 50 to Rs. 120

### SPECIALTY.

1st Class ¾ Plate Silver Semi-Hunting, Hunting and Crystal-Faced Watches of best manufacture, Chronometer Balance ..... Rs. 150, 145 and 140
Silver Hunting, ¾ Hunting and Crystal-Faced Keyless Watches, Screw Balance, from Rs. 100 to Rs. 125
Silver Hunting Keyless Lever Watches ..... " 65 to " 75
Silver Double Crystal Keyless Lever Watches ..... " 50
Silver Hunting, ¼ Hunting, and Open-Faced Watches, not Keyless ..... Rs. 40, 45 and 50

IMPORTANT TO SHIKAREES, TRAVELLEERS AND PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICTS.

German Silver Open-Faced Keyless Lever Watches of superior make, strong and durable, and guaranteed to stand hard wear and tear and keep accurate time..... Rs. 30 each.

Gold Keyless Hunting and Open-Faced Keyless Clock Watches, from ..... Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,600
Gold Hunting ¾ and Minute Repeaters ..... " 2,000 to " 2,000
Gold Perpetual and Ordinary Calendar Watches ..... " 400 to " 1,300
Gold Chronographs and Chronometers ..... " 550 to " 800

## C. MARCKS AND CO.,
WATCH-MAKERS,
JEWELLERS AND OPTICIANS,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

Agents for Messrs. Thomas Russell and Son's Watches.

# THE HOME GOING SEASON.
## REQUISITES.

HOMEWARD BOUND PASSENGERS.

ASQUITH & COMPANY'S SPECIAL KIT.

| | Rs. a. | | Rs. a. |
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| Deck Suits ..... from | 10 0 | Hand Bags ..... | 11 8 |
| Overland Suits ..... " | 25 0 | Best Hide Gladstone ..... | 32 0 |
| Warm Chevriot ..... " | 35 0 | Fitted Dressing Do. ..... | 36 0 |
| Overcoats, Whitney ..... " | 45 0 | | |
| Do. for Evening ..... " | 22 0 | Sheets, ..... p.pr. | 9 8 |
| Cardigan Jackets ..... " | 11 8 | Blankets, fine Cotton ..... p.pr. | 25 0 |
| " Sleeping ..... " | | Blankets, fine White Whitney ..... p.pr. | |
| Dressing Gowns... from | 10 0 | Rugs, Long Striped ..... " | 18 0 |
| Sleeping suits.....6-8 to | 17 8 | Mauds, Fine Scotch..from | 22 0 |
| Pyjamas ..... " | 16 8 | Pillows, Travelli e ..... | 2 0 |
| Shirts, Fine Long Cloth ..... | 22 8 | " Horse Hair ..... | 7 8 |
| " Superfine ..... | 28 0 | " Steamed Fabrics ..... | 7 4 |
| " Printed ..... | | Cases for above ..... each | 1 0 |
| " Cambric ..... | 28 0 | Toilet Covers ..... " | 1 0 |
| " Oxford ..... | | Camp Bedsteads, Folding, to fit under seat... | 35 0 |
| " Cloth ..... | 36 0 | Towels, several use ..... | 5 0 |
| " Flannel ..... | 49 0 | Towels, Turkish Bath..six | 10 8 |
| " Silk & Wool ..... | 32 | Napkins, fine Damask, doz | 10 8 |
| " Spun Silk ..... | 67 6 | | |
| Under Vests..... from | 14 0 | Money Belts..... each | 4 8 |
| " ..... " | 21 0 | Sovereign Boxes ..... " | 3 0 |
| Socks, Cotton pr. doz. | 9 8 | Purses, Solid Leather ..... | 8 0 |
| Socks Merino ..... " | 15 8 | Chairs, Folding, for Travellers ..... from | 6 8 |
| Cambric Handkerchief ..... " | 5 0 | Cheiry Shaving, 72" wide, per yard ..... | 6 8 |
| Linen Faced Collars ..... | 0 14 | Hand Mirrors, Folding... | 2 4 |
| Fine Irish Linen ..... | 6 0 | Hair Brushes, in Leather Case...per pair | 1 8 |
| Scarf, for Pin..... from | 1 0 | Combs, in Case ..... each | 0 12 |
| " to tie ..... " | 1 12 | " Toilet..... from | 1 0 |
| " Sailor's Knot. " | 1 12 | Nail Brushes ..... from | 0 14 |
| Gloves, Warm, Berlin ..... " | 2 12 | Tooth ..... " | 0 10 |
| Mitts ..... " | 1 12 | Guards for above.....as 8 | 1 4 |
| Mufflers, Warm ..... " | 2 0 | Clothes Brushes..... from | 1 4 |
| Braces, best quality... " | 2 0 | Hat ..... " | 1 4 |
| Travelling Rains, forming Trunk ..... " | 31 0 | Shoe Horns..... " | 0 14 |
| Hats, Soft Tweed..... " | 5 0 | Bath Sponges ..... " | 8 8 |
| " Felt, various shapes..... from | 7 8 | Sponge Bags ..... " | 1 12 |
| Helmets, Pith..... " | 5 0 | Soap, Marine pr box of 3 Toilet ..... " | 1 0 |
| " White Cork. " | 14 8 | Soap, Boxes, metal..... | 2 0 |
| Pugrees ..... " | 3 8 | Brushes ..... | 1 12 |
| Caps, Tweed..... " | | Eau de Cologne, various genuine ..... | 1 0 |
| " Balmoral ..... " | 7 8 | Lavender Water (Balmbury's)..... | 2 0 |
| " Turban... from | 3 8 | Pommade (Atkinson's) .. | 1 4 |
| | | Lime Juice and Glycerine | 0 10 |
| Umbrellas, Alpaca...from | 6 8 | | |
| " Silk ... " | 10 8 | Razors ..... | 2 0 |
| " Sun ..... " | 7 8 | Nail Scissors ..... | 1 8 |
| Trunks, Overland ..from | 22 0 | Pocket Knives ..... | 2 8 |
| " for Rail..... | 12 8 | Shaving Brushes ..... | 2 8 |
| " Solid Leather... | 30 0 | Railway Keys ..... | 2 0 |
| Bags, Courier or Cash.. | 6 12 | | |
| " Soiled Linen... | 4 12 | | |

HOMEWARD BOUND PASSENGERS.

ASQUITH & COMPANY'S SPECIAL KIT.

## ASQUITH AND COMPANY,
THE OVERLAND KIT WAREHOUSE,
BOMBAY.

# HAMILTON AND COMPANY,
JEWELLERS IN ORDINARY
TO
H. E. The Viceroy and Governor-General of India,
CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, & "ALLENVILLE," SIMLA.

SUITES OF BRACELET, BROOCH, AND EARRINGS.

*All gold enamelled only, or enamelled and set with stones, Rs. 150 to Rs. 600; with Necklet gold only or enamelled and stones, from Rs. 250 to Rs. 800.*

SETS OF BROOCHES AND EARRINGS.

*All gold; for daily wear, from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100, enamelled and set with precious stones, from Rs. 55 to Rs. 650.*

NECKLETS AND EARRINGS.

*With Lockets and Pendants, all gold, of new designs, from Rs. 90 to Rs. 280, very elegant for evening wear, studded with gems, from Rs. 150 to Rs. 600.*

PENDANTS AND EARRINGS.

*All gold, in the most fashionable style, from Rs. 65 to Rs. 150. Enamelled, or set with precious stones, Pearls, &c., from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500.*

10th February, 1877. RAMPART ROW.

# FELT HATS AND HELMETS.

THORPE & Co. have just OPENED a LARGE SHIPMENT for the present Season.

| FELT HATS. | Rs. a. | HELMETS. | Rs. a. |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Duke, New low Round Crown..... | 7 0 | Hawk's Regulation, best quality, covered white Doe | 20 0 |
| Ditto ditto Extra Quality..... | 8 0 | The New Spike for Infantry..... | 7 0 |
| Black Felt, medium height, Square Crown .... | 8 0 | Spike and Plate for Staff and Cavalry..... | 10 0 |
| Ditto ditto Round Crown .... | 8 0 | Gilt Chin Chains..... | 6 0 |
| Soft Black Felt, Round Crown..... | 8 0 | Ellwood's Helmets, White..... | 13 0 |
| Brown Felt, Fashionable Round Crown..... | 8 0 | Ellwood's White Hunting Helmets..... | 13 8 |
| Drab Felt, ditto ditto ..... | 8 0 | Ellwood's Shikar Hat, covered Flax ..... | 13 8 |
| Soft Crown, Black and Drab..... | 7 8 | Ellwood's Patent Air-Chamber Felt Helmets, a sure protection against sunstroke..... | 18 0 |
| Drab Soft High Crown ..... | 8 0 | Christy's Drab Felt Helmets..... | 10 0 |
| Black and Drab Soft Travelling Hats..... | 8 0 | Light Drab Felt Helmets for Lady or Gentleman | 10 0 |
| Tweed Travelling Hats, in great variety, 2-8 to | 5 8 | Light Helmets with extra Band ..... | 10 0 |
| Drab Shell Hats ..... | 10 0 | Drab Felt Milton Hats..... 6-8 to | 8 0 |
| Black Silk Dress ..... | 13 8 | | |

*LESS 10 PER CENT FOR CASH.*

## THORPE AND COMPANY,
CIVIL, NAVAL AND MILITARY TAILORS,
MEADOW STREET, FORT, BOMBAY.

# CUTLER, PALMER & CO.,

BOMBAY PRICE LIST—(INCLUDING DUTY AND TOWN DUES.)

The amount of Duty and Dues on Wines, Spirits, Cordials, &c., at per case of one doz. qts. or two doz. pints is as follows:—

On Claret and Burgundies, Rs. 2; German Still Wines, Sherries, and Ports, Rs. 3; Sparkling Wines, Rs. 5; Spirits and Cordials, Rs. 8. Town Dues, As 8 per case.

**These Cash Charges we cover in our Prices by general request, but include no Profit on the Advance, nor can we take Discount off duty and dues.**

BOMBAY HOUSE:—DEAN LANE, BOMBAY.
LONDON OFFICES:—5, ADELPHI TERRACE, W.C., AND 44, MARK LANE, CITY, E.C.
CALCUTTA HOUSE:—10, HARE STREET, CALCUTTA. | BORDEAUX HOUSE:—PLACE DU CHAMP DE MARS.

PATRONS:

H. M. THE QUEEN, EMPRESS OF INDIA.

THE ADMIRALTY,

OWNERS OF INDIA, CHINA AND AUSTRALIAN S.S. LINES,

THE P. & O. Co., AND THE B. I. S. N. Co. FOR SOME OF THEIR SHIPS.

Fifty Regimental Messes, and the undermentioned Club Houses, &c. &c.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| THE BOMBAY. | THE ATHENÆUM. | THE CAWNPORE. | THE TIRHOOT PLANTERS. |
| THE REFORM. | THE HIMALAYA. | THE SIRHIND. | |
| THE WINDHAM. | THE NYNEE TAL. | THE TUTICORIN. | THE WESTERN INDIA |

ESTABLISHED IN BORDEAUX AND LONDON IN 1815 AND IN INDIA IN 1842.

MEMO OF TERMS.

An Order for Three Cases, accompanied by Cash, carries 10 per Cent. Discount off BOND VALUE
Three months' Credit, without Discount to approved Buyers.
Special Terms to Messes, Clubs, and Co-operative Societies.
Single dozen Orders subject to 5 per Cent. for Cash off Bond Value

N. B.—Forwarding Charges we add to our rates. We guarantees each case to contain its full complement of bottles when dispatched, and agree to take back or exchange any Wine that may not be approved of on arrival but not afterwards.

☞ *N.B.—Mofussil constituents are requested, before taking delivery of their Goods, to see that the weight agrees with the Railway receipt.*

LOCAL AGENTS.

MR. JAMES PEARSE, 22, Apollo Street, Fort.
MR. EDULJEE PALLONJEE, Bora Bazaar Street and MR. JAMSETJEE NOWROJEE, Poydoni.

BORDEAUX—Red.

| CASH. Per 1 dozen Quarts and 2 dozen Pints. Duties Paid. Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. | | | CREDIT. Per 1 dozen Quarts and 2 dozen Pints. Duties Paid. Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 0 | 33 0 | CHATEAU LAFITE or MOUTON ..... | After Dinner Wines | 54 8 | 58 8 |
| 26 4 | 28 4 | " RAUZAN ..... | | 27 8 | 29 8 |
| 23 8 | 25 8 | " PALMER ..... | | 24 8 | 26 8 |
| 20 8 | 22 8 | " LAROSE..... | Dinner Wines | 21 8 | 23 8 |
| 17 12 | 19 12 | " ST. JULIET ..... | | 18 8 | 20 8 |
| 15 12 | 16 12 | " CANTENAC ..... | | 16 8 | 18 8 |
| 14 0 | 15 12 | ST. ESTEPHE, a favourite ..... | | 14 8 | 16 8 |
| 11 8 | 13 8 | PETIT MEDOC, excellent for Cup..... | | 12 0 | 14 0 |
| 11 0 | ... | PAUILLAC ..... | | 11 8 | ... |

| CASH. 46 Gals. Hdhs. Rs. A. | | CREDIT. 46 Gals. Hdhs. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|
| 252 0 | St. JULIEN ..... | 273 8 |
| 216 0 | CANTENAC ..... | 233 8 |
| 180 0 | St. ESTEPHE ..... | 193 8 |
| 147 8 | MEDOC ..... | 157 8 |

CLARET IN WOOD.

Of these we keep no stock, but can import for special order.

WHITE.

| Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. | | Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 8 | 24 8 | HAUT SAUTERNES, delicate flavor, Red ..... | 23 8 | 25 8 |
| 17 12 | 19 12 | SAUTERNE (Barsac) light, white cap..... | 18 8 | 20 8 |

BURGUNDY—Red.

| Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. | | Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 0 | 33 0 | CHAMBERTIN, the *elite* of Burgundies..... | 32 8 | 34 8 |
| 25 8 | 27 4 | NUITS or CORTON, high class Wine ..... | 26 8 | 28 8 |
| 21 8 | 23 8 | VOLNAY, strongly recommended ..... | 22 8 | 24 8 |
| 17 12 | ... | BEAUNE, soft delicate flavor ..... | 18 8 | ... |
| 37 12 | ... | SPARKLING Red Burgundy ..... | 39 8 | ... |

WHITE.

| Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. | | Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 8 | 27 4 | CHABLIS, La Moutonne, fine White ..... | 26 8 | 28 8 |
| 16 12 | 18 12 | CHABLIS, light, pleasant Wine..... | 17 8 | 19 8 |

SHERRIES.

We call especial attention to these—

| Per doz Qts. Rs. A. | | Per doz Qts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|
| 36 12 | AMONTILLADO A 1. rare old ..... gold seal | 38 8 |
| 35 0 | AMONTILLADO, choice and superior ..... black seal | 36 8 |
| 26 8 | MONTILLA, very pale and very dry ..... black seal | 27 8 |
| 27 4 | AMOROSO, full flavoured soft pale ..... black seal | 28 8 |
| 24 8 | VINO PURO, very pale, dry ..... blue seal | 25 8 |
| 23 8 | OLOROSO, nutty and dry ..... green seal | 24 8 |
| 21 8 | MANZANILLA ..... red seal | 22 8 |
| 20 12 | PALE, dry medium ..... yellow seal | 21 8 |
| 19 12 | VINO DE PASTE, remarkably pale and very dry ..... pink seal | 20 8 |
| 16 12 | A GOOD DINNER WINE..... white seal | 17 8 |
| 16 12 | MARSALA VIRGIN, pale, fine flavour ..... yellow seal | 17 8 |
| 35 12 | MADEIRA, E. I., very superior ..... black seal | 37 8 |
| 33 0 | MADEIRA, Excellent Wine ..... red seal | 34 8 |

SHERRIES IN WOOD AND JARS.

| 4 Gals. per Jar. Rs. A. | 13½ Gals. Octaves. Rs. A. | 27 Gals. Quarter Cask. Rs. A. | 54 Gals. Hhds. Rs. A. | | 4 Gals. per Jar. Rs. A. | 13½ Gals. Octaves. Rs. A. | 27 Gals. Quarter Cask. Rs. A. | 54 Gals. Hhds. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 68 12 | 212 12 | 416 8 | 823 8 | Amontillado, A1 ..... | 73 0 | 233 12 | 457 4 | 904 8 |
| 66 0 | 198 4 | 387 8 | 766 0 | Amontillado, Black seal quality ..... | 69 0 | 217 12 | 425 4 | 840 8 |
| 51 12 | 152 8 | 295 12 | 584 4 | Amoroso ..... | 54 0 | 166 12 | 323 4 | 638 8 |
| 42 4 | 124 8 | 245 4 | 472 8 | Oloroso ..... | 44 0 | 135 12 | 262 4 | 514 8 |
| 43 4 | 126 0 | 240 12 | 481 8 | Vino Puro..... | 45 0 | 137 12 | 267 4 | 524 8 |
| 40 0 | 115 8 | 222 0 | 436 8 | Manzanilla W ..... | 41 0 | 125 12 | 241 4 | 474 8 |
| 36 8 | 106 8 | 206 8 | 400 8 | Yellow Seal W ..... | 38 0 | 115 12 | 224 4 | 434 8 |
| 34 8 | 97 8 | 186 12 | 364 8 | Vino de Pasto W ..... | 36 0 | 105 12 | 202 4 | 394 8 |
| 32 12 | 83 0 | 158 0 | 308 12 | White Seal ..... | 34 0 | 89 12 | 171 4 | 332 8 |

The Quarter-Casks, Octaves and Jars are very convenient for Families, and will be found most economical. Jars with Wood Taps Rs 1½, or with Plated Taps Rs. 4 extra.

Of the 3 qualities marked W we keep stocks. But the others we only import for special orders.

CHAMPAGNES.

| Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. | | Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 47 8 | 51 4 | FINEST EXTRA DRY, a Grand Wine ..... | 49 8 | 53 8 |
| 47 12 | 50 10 | WACHTER'S PRINCE OF WALES' PLUME..... | 50 0 | 53 0 |
| 30 4 | ... | Ditto ditto per hamper of 24 half-pints ..... | 31 12 | ... |
| 41 12 | 43 8 | FINE DRY SPARKLING..... | 43 8 | 45 0 |
| 37 12 | 41 12 | GOOD SPARKLING (Star) ..... | 39 8 | 43 8 |
| 31 4 | ... | CARTE BLANCHE (Sibadey's) light particularly dry ..... | 32 8 | ... |
| 22 12 | ... | CARTE ROUGE ..... | 23 8 | ... |

SPARKLING GERMAN WINES.

| Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. | | Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 42 8 | 44 8 | HOCK, NONPAREIL, extra quality, medium dry ..... | 44 8 | 46 8 |
| 33 0 | 35 0 | HOCK, MUSCATEL, very choice ..... | 34 8 | 36 8 |
| 28 4 | ... | " EXCELLENT WINE ..... | 29 8 | ... |
| 43 8 | 44 8 | MOSELLE NONPAREIL (extra quality) ..... | 44 8 | 46 8 |
| 33 0 | 35 0 | MOSELLE MUSCATEL (very choice) ..... | 34 8 | 36 8 |
| 28 4 | ... | MOSELLE, excellent Wine..... | 29 8 | ... |

STILL GERMAN WINES.

| Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. | | Qts. Rs. A. | Pts. Rs. A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 46 4 | 48 4 | HOCK JOHANNISBERGER, superior ..... | 48 8 | 50 8 |
| ... | | MARCOBRUNNER ..... | 40 8 | ... |
| 34 0 | ... | LIEBFRAUMILCH ..... | 35 8 | ... |
| 29 4 | 31 0 | HOCK RUDESHEIMER, MELLOW ..... | 30 8 | 32 8 |
| 24 8 | 26 4 | " HOCHHEIMER, fine fl